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LONDON, MONDAY, MAY 2.

PRESIDENT TAFT'S INTIMATIONS TO CANADA.

President Taft's announcement that he will open reciprocity negotiations with Canada in a few months will create a stir of interest in both countries. Some Canadian newspapers already profess to view the prospect "with alarm." In imagination they see the prehensile diplomacy of Washington over-reaching Ottawa, and grasping our pulpwood and other stores of raw material. For some months, at least, they will have the satisfaction of flagellating the Government in anticipation of another "shameful surrender."

The United States recently approached the Dominion for the first time as a suitor, and will again make the advances. President Taft and his advisers are now aware of the strength of Canada's position. They are aware also of the skill and firmness of Canadian diplomacy. They know that Canada's independence of the American market is such that the Canadian Government will concede nothing, and needs to concede nothing, unless it is convinced that Canada will have the balance of advantage in any exchange of favors.

The popular demand for tariff revision in the United States will make the task of the Washington negotiators easier. They will be able to defend any agreement with Canada on the plea of reducing the burden of taxation. The insurgent Republicans and the Democrats, who are agitating for a lower tariff, would be to some extent disarmed by any arrangement which would have this effect. No doubt there is a party motive behind President Taft's overtures to this country, but it does not concern Canadians. We in this country are as little interested in reciprocity today as were our neighbors ten and twenty years ago. In this respect we and our neighbors have changed places. The prosperity of this country would be accelerated by free admission of our products to the American market, especially our agricultural products, but Canada has demonstrated that she can prosper without these advantages. Washington thought differently at one time, but Washington knows better today.

THE BUDGET'S TWIN TRIUMPH.

The Lloyd George budget has scored two triumphs—one political, the other financial. It saved the Government from defeat, and now it has proved a splendid revenue instrument.

The treasury receipts for the fiscal year ending March 31st, under the scale of taxes imposed by the budget, would have been £162,145,000, but for the interference of the House of Lords. The actual expenditure was £157,945,000. The surplus therefore would have been £4,200,000 or £21,000,000. As the expenditure was £75,000,000 greater than in the preceding year, the fact that the budget taxes, if they had been fully collected, would have yielded so much to the good, must be accounted a notable achievement for free trade finance.

The actual revenue collected up to March 31st was only £121,697,000, as many people took advantage of the rejection of the budget to withhold payment of their taxes. The Chancellor of the Exchequer estimates that at least £23,211,000 of these unpaid taxes will be recovered, leaving an actual surplus of £2,986,000. The other £1,237,000 may be permanently lost; it is the price the treasury must pay for the partisanship of the House of Lords. Of course the money remains in private pockets, so that the country is no poorer.

The showing for the budget was so satisfactory that "even the ranks of Tuscany could scarce forbear a cheer." When Mr. Lloyd George made his statement the other day in the House, Mr. Austen Chamberlain, the Opposition's financial critic, was generous enough to congratulate him. "The success of the right hon. gentleman's estimates taken as a whole is remarkable," said Mr. Chamberlain. "It reflects great credit on the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and still greater credit, as I know he would be the first to say, upon his advisers." Mr. Chamberlain could find fault with only two items. The estimate of the receipts from death duties had been much under-estimated. This was a stroke of luck for the chancellor, but Mr. Chamberlain warned him that it might not happen again, as the excessively high taxation would encourage evasion. The yield of the whiskey duties on the other hand had been greatly over-estimated. Mr. Chamber-

lain censured the Government for inflicting heavy loss on the distilling industry for the sake of a revenue which was not forthcoming.

Mr. Lloyd George admitted that the whiskey duties had not yielded the revenue he expected, but he pointed with satisfaction to the enormous decrease in the consumption of spirits, amounting to about 20 per cent. With pardonable pride, he said:

"I do not believe a financial estimate has ever been put to so severe a strain as the present. For four months the finances of the country have been thrown into confusion. We have had a period of very severe trade depression, and still we pay over £2,000,000 towards reducing the debt of the country out of the revenue of the year. In spite of all that we have a balance of £2,900,000. I do not believe any other country could do it, and I am perfectly certain of this, that, looking at what has happened in other countries, there is no other fiscal system that could have emerged so triumphantly out of so severe a strain as has been put upon us."

THE G. T. R. AND G. T. P.

There is ample reason for the optimistic tone of the speech of Chairman Smithers, of the Grand Trunk Railway board, at the recent half-yearly meeting of the shareholders. In the first place the report shows an increase in gross earnings of \$1,750,000 for the last half of 1909 over the corresponding half of the preceding year. The present year has thus far shown even greater improvement, the earnings for the first three months yielding an increase as compared with January, February and March of last year. The prosperous condition of the country encourages the hope that 1910 will be one of the best years, perhaps the best, in the company's history.

The operating expenses for the six months also increased. During the entire year \$4,334,252 was expended on maintenance of way and buildings, as compared with \$3,941,541 in 1908, which is evidence of the company's determination to keep the road up to the highest standard of efficiency. So, too, as regards rolling stock, the demands for freight carriage having necessitated the expenditure during the half year of \$1,605,676 on repairs and renewals, as compared with \$707,211 for the corresponding six months of 1908.

Chairman Smithers is equally hopeful in regard to the Grand Trunk Pacific. He expects that by the time the next crop begins to move the twelve hundred miles of road from Wolf Creek to Fort William will be in operation. He also expressed the hope that the important section of the road between Winnipeg and Lake Superior, on which construction work has been most difficult, will be ready for the carriage of grain this year.

There is one state-assisted provincial university in Ontario—and one is enough.—Hamilton Herald.

There are two state-assisted universities in Ontario—Toronto and Queen's. The Kingston School of Mines is an integral part of Queen's.

To the American farmers who have "skinned" the wheat lands of the Northern States, and to the landless people of Europe, the virgin soil of the Canadian West holds out genuine advantages; but there is no reason why farmers should leave Ontario.

The gift to Mr. Fielding, approved by nearly the whole Conservative press, is to be attacked in the House of Commons by Mr. Boyce, of Algoma. If there is mean work of this kind to be done, Mr. Boyce is the man for it.

The British House of Commons has adjourned for nearly a month. This will give statesmen some good going to brace them for the supreme struggle which will open when they return to Westminster. Recreation is more a national habit and tradition in Great Britain than in any other country.

Dr. Milligan's resignation of his pastorate is a reminder that he is growing old. There has been no sign of it in his preaching. The pulpit has been his throne, and his perennial freshness has put to scorn the theory of a dead line in the church. It is the preacher's fault if it is drawn in his own case before physical infirmity overtakes him.

It is safer to predict that the land taxes imposed by the British budget will never be removed. The party that raised the cry of confiscation against Sir William Harcourt's succession taxes found them a handy source of revenue when it came into office. No more will that other great financier, Col. Matheson, abandon the taxes which he used to denounce when he sat on the other side of the legislative chamber.

The Manchester Guardian says of the late Premier of Australia: "Mr. Deakin's great powers as a platform orator, his skill in parliamentary debate, and his high literary ability, make him a unique figure among present-day politicians in the Commonwealth. Among our colonial statesmen he ranks second in prestige only to Sir Wilfrid Laurier."

Laurier's pre-eminence among the public men of Greater Britain is acknowledged everywhere in the Empire—except, perhaps, in the Mail and Empire.

WHAT HE NEEDED.

They tell up in Brown County of a clerk who showed forty styles and patterns of gingham to a man whose wife had sent him to a drygoods store on an errand, and to every pattern the man said: "My wife said she didn't want anything like that." The clerk put the last piece on the

shelf. "Sir," he said, "you don't want gingham. You want a divorce."

WASTED MONEY.

(Illustrated Bits.)
 Warden—You'll get six months for this job.
 Prisoner—Just my blooming luck! Only had my hair cut last night. Three pence chucked away, as you might say.

AT THE CAT CLUB.

(Judged.)
 Feline No. 1—Miss Bluebird has arrived, I hear.
 Feline No. 2—Well, here's hoping she doesn't soar so high as beefsteak.

FORCE OF HABIT.

(Boston Transcript.)
 Bronson—What did that pretty salesgirl say when you stole a kiss?
 Johnson—She said: "Will that be all today?"

PROMOTING ECONOMY.

(Washington Star.)
 "I am afraid I won't be able to pay your bill for some time, doctor," said the grateful patient.
 "H'm!" replied the physician, who is a natural diplomat. "There are two points I forgot to mention in my advice. You had better quit smoking and cut out a meat diet."

DRAFT FROM THE GALLERY.

(Chicago News.)
 The leading man in the barnstorming New England drama halted in the wings. "I guess I'd better go back for an encore," he announced, proudly. "I still hear the wind hissing in the blizzard scene."

GETTING READY.

(St. Paul Dispatch.)
 Jones (at the telephone)—Hello, Mary; I just called you up to say that as soon as I get home I'm going to discharge that cook. She's no good.
 Mrs. Jones—All right, John. By the way, stop at some drug store coming home and get some arnica, some liniment and a package of court plaster. I have plenty of lint and salves.

TRANSPARENTLY VULGAR.

(Puck.)
 The Male—Heavens! That's the third person we've hit!
 The Female—Control yourself, Richard. Do you want everyone to know you're not accustomed to motoring?

THE DEPOT LOAFERS.

(A Prose Poem by Walt Mason.)
 The railway station in the town is seedy, commonplace and plain; yet scores of people rustle down and gather there to meet each train. The waiting-room is bleak and bare, a place of never-ending din; yet fifty loafers gather there each day to see the train come in. The station agent's life is sad; the loafers make it grim and grey; they drive the poor man nearly mad, for they are always in the way. The passengers can only sob as they their downward way begin, for they must struggle through the mob that's there to see the train come in. The men who have their work to do are hindered in a hundred ways; in vain they weep and cry out "Shoo!" they can't disperse the loafing lads. These loafers always are the same; they toil not, neither do they spin; they have no other end or aim than just to see the train come in. I've travelled east, I've travelled west, and every station in the land appears to have its loafer-fest. Its lazy, idle, useless band; I know the station loafer well; he has real style on his chin; he has an ancient, beetle-like snell; he lives to see the train come in. Oh, Oiler, get your chloroform, and fill your glass syringe again, and come and try to make things warm for those "tin snappers" and "loafers," standing in the way, when standing is a yellow sin! For those who gather day by day to see a one-horse train come in!

UP TO HIM.

(Catholic Standard and Times.)
 "See here," asked the cautious stranger, "if I decide to stay here for a week, how much is it going to cost me?"
 "You can answer that best yourself," replied the clerk of the Florida hotel. "How much have you got?"

MAKING SURE OF MAIN CHANCE.

(Life.)
 He (politely)—I understand that the Frontenac's a nice apartment house.
 She—Are you thinking of taking an apartment?
 He—Not unless I should get married.
 She—If you would like to get an apartment house you should be sure to get a wife who would make a good cook.
 He—Wouldn't it be safer to marry a cook who would make a good wife?

AN ADMISSION.

(Toronto News.)
 Upton Sinclair says that he has forsworn meat and sweets and dried fruit. He even admits that at times he is full of prunes.

SOMETHING VISIBLE.

(Elkington's Bazar.)
 "Show me some tiaras, please. I want one for my wife."
 (Yes, sir. About what price?)
 "Well, such a price that I can say: 'You see that woman with the tiara? She is my wife.'"

HARDLY TIME.

(Elkington's Bazar.)
 "They say that when a mountain climber has a fall all the sins he ever committed flash through his mind. Was that the case with you and your flock?"
 "Oh, no. You see, I fell from a ledge only a hundred yards high."

SARCASM.

(Louisville Courier-Journal.)
 Let us forget, a quiet, unostentatious, self-effacing, publicity-shunning, shrinking modest, unknown, unphotographed, unsmiling, retiring, reserved, secretive lion-hunter contemplates approaching these shores clandestinely and surreptitiously, slipping unnoticed through the crowd at the pier, to seek the solace of solitude and indulge in pious patriotic meditation.

STRANGE GERMAN BOYCOTT.

(London Daily News.)
 It will be remembered that at their last congress, held in December, 1909, the German Social Democrats decided, by way of protest against the new indirect taxation imposed by the "financial reform" of the summer of that year, to institute a boycott of spirits. The German labor gazette, the Reichsarbeiterblatt, now publishes a comparison of the consumption of spirits in the five months of October, 1909, to February, 1910, with that in the similar period of the preceding year, from which it appears that the consumption has dropped from 2.6 million to 16.2 million gallons, or over 38 per cent.

A HIT.

(London Weekly Telegraph.)
 Pretty Miss Jones—As I play an old lady in this piece, I shall have to have wrinkles painted round my eyes, cheeks and mouth.
 Brown—Ah, they will be lines cast in pleasant places.

1870 1910
40th Anniversary Sale

We've prepared for your Tuesday and Wednesday visits to this store a wonderful feast of bargains. For your own benefit we ask you to visit this store every day if possible during this Sale. The Silks, Dress Goods and Housefurnishings Departments offer a few of the greatest bargains in our history. INVESTIGATE.

Dress Goods Bargains

WATCH OUR WINDOWS. ANNIVERSARY SALE
 One table of Herringbones, Striped Suits, Novelty Suitings, Armures, Serges, Satin Cloths. All colors.
 Regular 65c to \$1.00

50c

One table of Panamas and Armures, in all the wanted colors. ANNIVERSARY SALE

Regular From 75c

a Yard Up

64c

All our Immense Stock of Cream Dress Goods marked for the ANNIVERSARY SALE, fully ONE-THIRD Less Than Regular.

Regular.

The Housefurnishings Warehouse Is Celebrating

These Anniversary Sale Prices

Demand Your Attention

Curtains

\$5.00 pair Nottingham Lace. ANNIVERSARY SALE

.....\$3.50

\$4.00 pair Nottingham Lace. ANNIVERSARY SALE

.....\$2.75

\$1.50 values in Nottingham Lace. The best assortment and values we have ever shown. ANNIVERSARY SALE

.....\$1.00

IMPORTED BRUSSELS—Dozens of excellent patterns suitable for every carpet-needing room. Each design has hall, stairs, and border designs to match. This is our regular 90c quality. ANNIVERSARY SALE

.....83c

Our regular \$1.25 yard English Brussels. ANNIVERSARY SALE

.....\$1.00

A few pieces of our \$1.75 Axminster Carpet. ANNIVERSARY SALE

.....\$1.25

OVER 500 ROOM RUGS AT A SAVING OF FULLY ONE-THIRD OFF REGULAR PRICES.

90c square yard Inlaid, two yards wide. ANNIVERSARY SALE

.....65c

PRINTED LINOLEUM—Regular 50c square yard. ANNIVERSARY SALE

.....40c

OILCLOTHS in all widths, 1 to 2½ yards. ANNIVERSARY SALE

.....22c

Linoleums

Dry Goods

Kingsmill's

Housefurnishings

Butchers Deny Slink

VEAL IS SOLD HERE

If "Staggering Bobs" Are Shipped to London They Are Shipped Out Again.

Reports have been circulated to the effect that "bob" veal, or "slinks," as they are known among the butchers, are being shipped into London. Young veal of this description is not fit for human consumption.

The market clerk, who is kept in touch with the "ins and outs" of the market, is of the opinion that the veal of this description is not fit for human consumption.

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Silks Greatly Reduced

FANCY SILKS—Blue ground, Tuscan mixed, green and petunia, purple and green, red and green, wistaria and green. ANNIVERSARY SALE

Regular 75c Yard

50c

STRIPED AND CHECKED SILKS—Green and white check, mauve and white check, old rose, darker stripe; green, darker stripe; light blue, darker stripe; mauve, darker stripe; tan, darker stripe. ANNIVERSARY SALE

Regular 55c Yard

40c

French Faille ANNIVERSARY SALE

Sapphire, dark navy, myrtle, light blue.

Regular 65c Yard

39c

Butchers Deny Slink

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