

ST. JOHN WELCOMES NEXT PREMIER

R. L. BORDEN WELCOMED WITH GREAT TESTIMONY DEMONSTRATION IN CITY'S HISTORY

A Monster Procession, Crowded Streets, and Two Great Meetings, at which Speakers' Voices were Often Drowned by Cheers of Enthusiastic Multitude.

Conservative Leader Made Strong Patriotic Address, in which He Showed what St. John Stands to Lose by Adoption of Reciprocity -- Stirring Speeches by the Candidates and Others

Never in the history of St. John was such a demonstration witnessed as that of last evening when R. L. Borden, leader of the Opposition in the late Parliament and the next premier of Canada, was given a reception such as will live in his mind as one of the greatest ever tendered to him by any constituency in Canada, and in the minds of the residents of St. John as the greatest ever accorded to any political leader in this city. Compared with the reception to the present premier, the greeting which the loyal citizens of St. John last night tendered to the potential premier stands out with a clarity and a splendor that spells the glad message that the people of this city are not to be torn from their allegiance to the policy of British connection by any agreement for closer trade relations with the United States. Crowded streets, a monster procession and a great meeting in the Queen's Square were the outstanding features.

The torchlight procession was something more than an imposing spectacle—it threw a great light upon the way the people are thinking and feeling in this campaign. It so far eclipsed the procession on the occasion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's visit as to fully justify the expectation that the result of the elections in St. John city and county is only a question of the majority of the Conservative candidates. The procession was the largest of its kind ever seen in this city, and it was the more impressive because of the fact that all the torch bearers were men. Carleton alone sent as many men to do honor to the Conservative chief as there was in the whole procession on the night Laurier was here. Shortly after 7 o'clock the contingents from the different parts of the city began to assemble at the foot of King street, and by half past seven 2,000 torch bearers were ranged along the North Wharf and massed over Market Square and along Prince William street and up King street. As they waited for the order to march they made a striking spectacle ranged as they were in the form of a cross—a fiery cross summoning the clans to battle. Shortly before 8 o'clock they began their march up King street. As the contingent for the North End and Fairville passed the Royal Hotel, Mr. Borden and the candidates, and officers of the local Conservative clubs boarded the carriages in waiting and swung into the line of the parade. A long river of flame, the procession passed up King street, swung north along Charlotte to Union street, thence to Sydney, then across the arch of King Square and back to Charlotte street and then down to the rink. So long was the line of the procession that the head of the parade reached Queen's Square before the tail had swung away from the North wharf. A great crowd of spectators was massed all along the route of the procession, and a storm of cheers followed Mr. Borden and the candidates from the Royal Hotel to the rink. As the paraders bearing torches and transparencies, and setting off rockets swung through the streets, the people caught the contagion of the spirit which animated the men who had turned out to show their devotion to their leader and the cause he stands for, and cheered the paraders and the mottoes on the transparencies in a great outpouring of enthusiasm.

Col. J. B. M. Baxter presided and among those on the platform were the following: Rev. W. W. Brewer, Manning W. Doherty, E. Wilson, M. P., Ex-Warden William J. Dean, Coun. J. K. Carscadden, V. A. Belyas, W. Emerson, Ex-Ald. James Sproul, W. B. Tennant, J. B. Eagles, W. S. Clawson, Ex-Ald. Alex. Law, Ex-Ald. W. D. Baird, James Rogers, Ald. Wigmore, Hiram White, Clerk of peace B. L. Gerow, C. B. Lockhart, ex-M. P. F. Amon, A. Wilson, K. C., Wm. Shaw, ex-M. P., J. Roy Campbell, James McKinney Jr., H. H. Hanington, J. H. McRobbie, Andrew Malcolm, D. C. Clinch, R. D. Smith, J. W. Smith, Fred Dykeman, County Assessor Moore, Robert Wisely, Rev. James Crisp, Fred Anderson, Rev. LeB. McKel, R. A. Courtney, Mr. Sandler, Maj. B. R. Armstrong, E. W. Slipp, F. E. McDonald, Ex-Ald. James Seaton, A. R. Campbell, Ex-Ald. Baird, James Rogers, C. M. Bostwick, G. S. Mayes, James Lewis, Dr. Melvin, Dr. Mott, County Revisor John Irvin, H. Chazy Smith, Ald. Alex. Wray, M. P. P., Hon. R. Maxwell, M. E. Agar, Dr. Case, Rev. Herbert Thomas, T. J. McAfee, Rev. H. D. Marr, Rev. William Gault.

Mr. Borden Gets Ovation. Mr. Borden on rising was greeted so heartily that he was unable to speak for several minutes. Time and again he motioned for silence, and the cheers and applause coupled with shouts of "Borden, Borden" broke out anew. Finally the vast audience was quieted by the best of Mr. Borden's oratory. He was introduced from an enthusiastic who, when the Empire and the colony of South Africa was mentioned, burst out with "Give it to them, Borden" where my wife and children were robbed of their living." Every point made by the leader of the opposition was enthusiastically applauded and his speech was frequently punctuated with enthusiastic evidence of the entire approval of the audience.

In opening Mr. Borden expressed his pleasure at the opportunity presented to him to address the people of St. John and particularly that of the trade agreement. He apologized for the condition of his voice, but said he hoped the damage would be made up in a good cause. The deep interest taken in the issues of the campaign was abundantly evident from the size of the audience. The Liberal-Conservative party by its record had realized that in order to make Canada great the provinces should be bound together by the great transportation lines to care for the east and west trade which would be developed. On several occasions when the party had laid out its platform, it has emphasized the necessity for the nationalization of the great ports of Canada, of Montreal and Quebec, of St. John and Halifax. That policy had been placed before the people in what was known as the Halifax platform. There was no man in Canada who did not realize that the people of St. John had made great sacrifices in the development of this port and he would say that if the Liberal-Conservative party had been returned to power in 1904 or 1908, the declared policy of nationalizing the ports of Canada would have been carried into effect and the port of St. John would have been even better equipped than it is. The policy of the Liberal-Conservative party in opposition would be the policy of the Liberal-Conservative party in power—the nationalization of the great ports of Canada. (Cheers and applause.)

Continuing, Mr. Borden said: "I have found in Ontario, and have no doubt it has been circulated here, an insidious canvass that the Liberal-Conservative, if returned to power, would pursue a policy of parsimony. This is not true. The Liberal-Conservative party believes in liberal expenditures for the development of Canada and for the development of the east and west trade. But the Liberal-Conservative party also believes that for every dollar spent the people should get a dollar's worth of benefit and that every dollar spent should be in the interests of the country. "None of the public money should be used for camp followers. (Cheers and applause) and those who will always be camp followers, always be men whose desire it is to plunge their hands into the public chest. The strength of a government is to be gauged by the power to resist that, to resist the demands of the men who have been Conservatives prior to 1896 who since have been calling themselves Liberals and who after the 21st of September will suddenly discover that they have always been Conservatives." (Laughter and applause.) "Subject to the limitation of honesty surely the development of the great Canadian ports and the nationalization of these ports is in the interest of Canada and is a good object." (Cheers and applause.)



MR. R. L. BORDEN

The policy announced in 1904 with regard to Montreal and Quebec, and St. John and Halifax was the policy of the Liberal-Conservative party and would be carried out when the Liberal-Conservative government comes into power. There need be no fear that the Liberal-Conservative government would not realize the demands of the ports." (Cheers and applause.)

Mr. Borden then dealt with the maladministration of the Liberal government paying particular reference to the Lacombe case, the case of the man who had been condemned by the government expense and then had himself whitewashed by the government. "Whitewashing. Mr. Borden dealt with the maladministration of the Liberal government paying particular reference to the Lacombe case, the case of the man who had been condemned by the government expense and then had himself whitewashed by the government. (Laughter.)

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have the splendid British market which she now enjoys and there was not such a high state of development in the country. In the second place Sir Wilfrid Laurier had said that every leading statesman in Canada had been striving for reciprocity. If that was so then Sir Wilfrid must admit that he was not in the number of leading statesmen for he had said: first, that Canada did once desire reciprocity but did not now; secondly, that Canada was once dependent on the United States market, but not now; thirdly, that Canada was relying upon the British markets; and, fourthly, that the best way to be on friendly terms with the United States was to keep absolutely independent of them.

Means Free Trade. The proposition before the people now, although under the name of reciprocity, was leading to absolute continental free trade. It would be impossible to have reciprocity for the farmers and prevent it going further until it became free trade. This was clearly the idea of the leading men of the United States, and Mr. Borden quoted Mr. Stimson, secretary for war in the Taft government, who said that reciprocity would make a breach in the Canadian tariff wall which could be easily widened to extend the trade of the United States had held a similar opinion. In 1891 Sir Wilfrid Laurier had tried to introduce absolute continental free trade, and when met with the argument that it might lead to political absorption with the United States had replied that it did not matter, as the people and the institutions of the United States and Canada were about the same. On that occasion Sir John Macdonald, then premier had said that the proposition of Sir Wilfrid was "wicked treason" (cheers and applause.)

No Sound Argument in Fact. There was no general sound economic argument in favor of reciprocity. The Toronto Globe was carrying on the argument that through it the farmer would get a better price for beans, other papers were taking up the cause of turnips, and there were other local arguments, but the speaker could not find one general argument in favor of the pact. A condition of ideal reciprocity would be between Canada and the British West Indies where a good trade could be worked up and where the countries did not come into competition. Each country's products of the other and a reciprocal agreement would be of value to both. The same rule would apply but in a lesser degree to reciprocity with Great Britain. Great Britain needed the agricultural and the animal products of Canada, and Canada needed many things manufactured in Great Britain.

With the United States there was no such argument. The United States was an exporter of agricultural products to the amount of \$550,000,000, while Canada could export only \$50,000,000. The effect of reciprocity between these two countries would simply be to increase the exportable surplus of the United States. The talk of the 90 million market was mythical. From the arguments made by Sir Wilfrid it would seem as if the whole of 90,000,000 people of the United States were standing on the border waiting to be fed and that the farmer would for this reason get a much larger price for his produce.

As a matter of fact the Canadian farmer got better prices for his produce than did the farmer of the United States. There might be exceptions and localities where the reciprocity agreement might give better prices for the Canadian farmer, but this was not the general rule, and he was sure that these exceptions would not remain.

Canada's Progress. Mr. Borden then dealt with the progress which had been made by Canada since the time of Confederation. The fathers of Confederation had no other aim and those who came after them and attempted to develop Canada had no other aim. They were not with the pull from the south and the difficulties which arose from the fact that the settled parts of Canada were on the coasts and that between them there were hundreds of miles of wilderness and wild land. Great work had, however, been done since that time. Canada was the most progressive country under the sun. He had travelled Canada from one coast to the other and he could assure his audience that in the east as well as the west opportunity walked beside every man in Canada. In addition to the great material development of Canada there had been a great quickening of the national spirit, until now the people of Canada were proud to be the greatest nation in the greatest Empire in the world. (Cheers and applause.)

Mr. Borden then dealt with the various arguments which Sir Wilfrid Laurier had used in favor of the reciprocity pact. When he started his tour easy talk and used arguments, but when he came to St. John he found that it was necessary to argue it out with the people. And the first argument he used was that the people of Canada should take reciprocity because they wanted it in 1866. Canada had changed in the interim, and the people of Canada today were in a vastly different position to that of 1866. At that time Canada did not

long after the agreement had been in force. An illustration. If the Canadian farmer's produce were placed in 35 parcels it would be found that 28 of these would be consumed in the home market, 6 would be exported to Great Britain and the remaining one to the United States. In exchange for the so-called larger market for this one parcel of Canadian farmer was forced to open his markets for the farmers of the United States and the twelve favored nations mentioned in the agreement. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had laughed at these, but they would prove serious competitors in the Canadian market. This would be particularly true of Argentina which would compete with Canada in her own market as well as in the markets of the world. Great Britain today requires \$95,000,000 worth of animal and agricultural products such as Canada could send her and the total of the Canadian trade with Great Britain was but \$78,000,000. The British market was easily the best for the Canadian farmer to cultivate. (Cheers and applause.)

A Good Story. There was once a man who had been partaking of ginger ale and became purgacious. He started by announcing that he could whip any man in the country, as this had no effect he declared that he could whip any man in the province, and finding no attention paid to him, loudly announced that he could whip any man in all Canada. At this a smaller man who was expert in the use of his fists arose and with a well directed blow knocked him over. When he got up and rubbed his head he said, "The trouble with me was that I took in too much territory." That was also the trouble with the reciprocity agreement—it took in too much territory.

Argentina and Denmark would under the favored nation clause be dangerous competitors of Canada and it must be remembered that for all purposes of trade the shores of Denmark and Argentina touched the shores of Canada as the cost of shipment by water was so slight as to add but little to the expense of landing their goods here. That was one instance where the reciprocity agreement took in too much territory. The passage of the reciprocity agreement would affect the reputation of the Canadian goods in Great Britain. It would make the United States the clearing house of the continent and even if the agreement were changed, as Laurier said it could be, the individuality of the Canadian product would be swallowed up in that of the United States and it would be necessary to commence all over again to build up our markets in Britain.

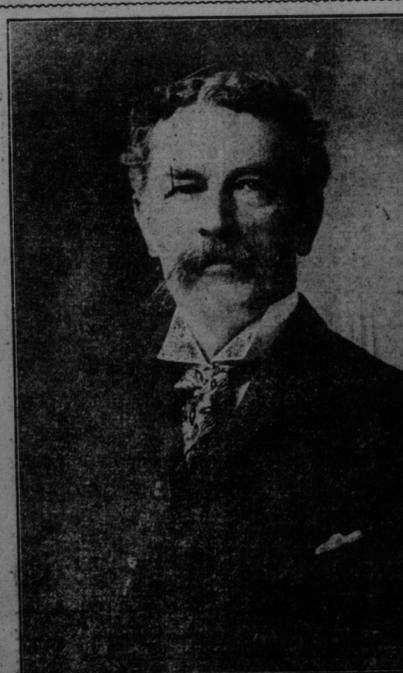
Against National Policy. The whole idea of the agreement was against the plan of the national policy. It would send Canadian wheat and Canadian pulp wood into the United States to be manufactured in American factories and mills. The United States idea of it from an economic standpoint was well set forth in a pamphlet issued by an American manufacturers' association and entitled, "Stop the Leak." This pamphlet, sections of which Mr. Borden read pointed out that 750 American industrial establishments had opened branches in Canada in the last ten years, and that 750 more would come in the next ten years if the reciprocity agreement was not adopted. The passage of the reciprocity agreement would, however, stop the leak.

Mr. Borden, continuing along this line, said, "I cannot leave without referring to the address which was presented to Sir Wilfrid Laurier by the Liberals of St. John in which they eulogized the premier for the policy that Canadian trade should be carried through Canadian ports. We know that the people of Canada have made these exceptions would not remain."

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H. A. POWELL, K. C.



DR. J. W. DANIEL