

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., SEPTEMBER 16, 1913.

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TARIFF COMMENT

Discussing the revised American tariff, which just now is disposed to denounce the new tariff measure will be the nearest approach to a revenue tariff ever enacted on this continent and marks a long step forward in the effort to loosen the shackles that restrict trade and increase the burden of life. Canada might well take a lesson from this tariff, which represents a demand of the people for a lowering of the cost of living.

Referring to this year's great harvest, the Ottawa Journal says: "Western farmers will pocket one hundred and seventy million dollars from this year's crop. This will help them to face an increase in the cost of living of over one point just announced by the labor department and the further announcement that the increase will go still higher. But what about the rest of us, who have no crops to cut?"

Both of the journals above quoted are supporters of the present government at Ottawa. The Ottawa paper wants to know what relief the consumer can get in the face of an advancing cost of living. The Globe points out that a loosening of the shackles that restrict trade would lower the cost of living. In other words what we need in Canada today is a downward revision of the tariff.

The need of such revision will be all the more obvious when the revised American tariff has been in operation for a short time, and on this point we may quote another Conservative paper, the Toronto World, which says:

"One incident of this new tariff of the United States, as far as Canada is concerned, is that there is a free flow of food products into the United States from Canada, it may mean that these same foods will be scarcer in this country and therefore dearer to the Canadian consumer; what benefits the American consumer may have the effect of injuring the Canadian consumer. If so he will ask for relief."

The relief which will ask will be a reduction in the Canadian tariff, or the reciprocity which was floated by Conservative journals two years ago.

One direction in which there may be an increase in the cost of living in Canada is indicated by the Ottawa Free Press, which points out that the demand for cattle in the United States is now so great that Canadian farmers are selling steers at Buffalo, paying the duty and still getting a better price than they could get in the Canadian market. Remove the duty and the export would be increased, still further draining the Canadian market of its beef supply. In the end, of course, the price in Canada would have to be advanced. It has been alleged that the new American tariff gives Canada all she could have got under reciprocity. This is grossly untrue. The American tariff is reduced, not merely to Canada, but to all the world, and Canada must come into competition with all other countries. Under reciprocity she would have had better terms, and the Canadian consumer would also have had some advantages, as well as the producer and exporter.

The reduction of the tariff in the United States is an effort to reduce the cost of living and better the condition of the common people of that country. The Montreal Herald and another Canadian newspaper which increases that if the Wilson tariff results in the benefits which its friends foresee it may be necessary for Canada eventually to modify her tariff along similar lines. The Montreal Telegraph goes further, and is much more pronounced in its views. It says:

"This lowering of the tariff in the United States is bound to mean the lowering of the tariff in Canada. With a great nation of ninety million people at its doors enjoying the benefits of a low tariff, Canada will find it simply impossible to maintain the present prohibitive tariffs. The altered tariff will so greatly reduce the prices of all kinds of manufactured goods, and therefore so greatly reduce the cost of living, that Canada will find herself outstripped and overshadowed in every line of industry by the United States unless she also follows suit. In this matter the Borden government is already beginning to find itself between the upper and the nether millstones. The trusts who financed its anti-reciprocity campaign will not hear of any reduction in tariffs. They mean to resist every effort to interfere with their exploitation of the people. On the other hand, the ever-increasing cost of living is creating grave social and industrial problems, and there are many signs that the people of this country are finding the burden of the tariff unbearable."

THE THORNE BANQUET

It would be to the advantage of the city of St. John, or indeed of any community, to encourage such a spirit as characterized last night's banquet to Senator Thorne. There is perhaps a tendency to take politics too seriously, and to permit political prejudice to cloud the judgment, and prevent men from recognizing the good qualities in political opponents. Mr. Thorne is a Conservative, and has been appointed to the

senate by a Conservative government, which just now is disposed to denounce the Liberals of St. John from expressing their hearty approval of the appointment of Mr. Thorne to the senate, but because they recognize in Mr. Thorne, aside altogether from political leanings, a man of ability, a fair minded opponent, and one admirably qualified for the position to which he has been appointed by the government of the day. It was a graceful and well deserved tribute to his fellow citizens paid to Mr. Thorne last evening. The various speeches, which are reported at some length in this issue of the Times, were all happily conceived, and the banquet should have the effect of stimulating a deeper general interest in the welfare of St. John and the eastern provinces generally, as well as discouraging the rancorous spirit which sometimes marks political disagreement.

One whole day of the big game season appears to have passed without a man being shot for a deer. Why this amazing regard for human life?

The western wheat is reported to be of splendid quality, and there is a bumper crop. It is not surprising that western papers see a silver lining in the financial cloud.

The Standard once more alludes to the Globe as a Liberal newspaper. This is unkind to the Globe, which really regards itself as a much better Conservative journal than the Standard.

The board of trade extension to Fredericton tomorrow should be largely patronized. Fredericton people are invariably liberal patrons of St. John exhibitions. Moreover the Fredericton Fair is well worth a visit on its own account.

During their short stay in the city those members of the Manufacturers' Association who are not personally familiar with the progress St. John is making will have an opportunity to get some information which should be serviceable to them and of some value to this city.

The Grain Growers' Association of the west is asking the members of the Manufacturers' Association to join in an agitation to increase the British preference gradually, until in four years there would be free trade with the mother country. Of course the manufacturers will do nothing of the sort. They would much prefer to increase the tariff on British goods which compete with their products.

A series of very successful political meetings is being held in Westmorland county by Hon. Mr. Emmerson and other Liberal leaders. There is much that is of interest to discuss, and the universal interest in these meetings shows that the people are thinking a good deal about the serious blunder that was made in Canada in 1911, when the government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier was replaced by the Tory-Nationalist alliance.

The Tory press has made the startling discovery that three Liberal members of parliament are eager to resign. But Sir Wilfrid Laurier will not permit them to do so since their resignation would result in by-elections, and Sir Wilfrid is afraid to have any of his candidates face the people. The humorist who sent out this story should send out another, to explain why Mr. Borden does not dare to bring on by-elections in a number of constituencies which are not waiting for somebody to resign, but which are already vacant.

The Standard has discovered a man who has found a piece of road between St. George and Lepreau that has been put in good condition since the Fleming government came into power. No doubt this is startling news, worthy of the big headlines and the editorial reference which it receives. Let us hope a diligent search will discover some more pieces of improved road. But the gentleman who wanted to take Premier Fleming for a half hour's ride along the road near Belyea's Point on July 1st is understood to be ready still to give the premier a half hour, or half a day, to show him sections of road which have been improved.

WALL STREET MAN, NOW TRUCK FARMER, MAKES MONEY

Saskatoon, Sept. 16.—Truck farmers are showing remarkable results in this district, of which fact the case of Mr. Hammond, a retired Wall street broker, furnishes a good indication. Last year he cleared about \$5,000 on twenty-six acres of rented land; this year he is likely to clear more than \$7,000. He has one acre of celery, fourteen acres potatoes, and eleven acres sundry vegetables. Prior to coming here, Mr. Hammond was entirely without experience in agriculture. He attributes his success to his business training.

BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

This is the natal day of James J. Hill, noted American railway magnate, who was born near Guelph, Ont., seventy-five years ago. Early in life he left his father's farm and went into business. He has become head of one of the great railway systems of the United States, the Great Northern.

W. F. Hatheway, of St. John, ex-M. P., is sixty-three today. He was born in St. John and has been engaged in business here all his life.

Hon. L. P. Demers, Judge of the Superior court of Quebec, Montreal, and formerly a prominent Liberal member of the House of Commons, celebrates his fiftieth birthday today.

LIGHTER VEIN

Honk! Honk!

"Did she come to the door when you serenaded her with your mandolin?"

"No, but another fellow came along and brought her out with an auto horn."

Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Remedy

"Don't you think the trust idea is a menace to our business institutions?"

"Well, if you can, it's best to make customers pay cash."

Baltimore American.

Little Johnnie had been reading the newspaper.

"Pa," he said, as he laid the paper aside, "where is Dresden?"

"Dresden? Why, Dresden is in Germany, my son," said Mr. Knowitall.

"Why?"

"O, nothing," said Johnnie, "only this paper must be edited by an ignoramus. He speaks of Dresden, China."

The Limit

"As a rule I'm a peaceful and easy-going man."

"That's your reputation."

"I believe in being pleasant and accommodating."

"Yes, that is true."

"And I try to keep my temper. I don't believe in profanity."

"I'm glad to hear it."

"But I want to say to you that I'm responsible for what I say when my wife wakes me up at one o'clock in the morning to go down and let in the servant girl who has forgotten her key."

Carrying it to Excess

Quizzo—"I understand that your friend Branson is a vegetarian."

Quizzo—"Yes. He has such pronounced views on the subject that he married a great widow."

The Doctor's Calculations

Fooole—"Doc. Woole wants to tell his sister."

Biff—"What's the reason?"

Fooole—"He figgers that the one that will be a steady patient ever after."

Her Flat

Mrs. Noobridge—"Yes, dear I was married last month. I'd like for you to call on me and see the pretty little flat I have."

Miss Jellus—"I've seen him, my dear."

The New Woman

Mrs. Knicker—"Are you going to take a course in a business college?"

Mrs. Rooster—"Yes, I want to find out there would be free money out of Jack's Judge."

UNIONISTS IN BAD WAY

Westminster Gazette)

It is always refreshing to find members of the Tory party saying uncomplimentary things to their comrades, for then the plain truth comes out. A striking example was afforded recently when a correspondent of a Manchester Tory newspaper frankly conceded:

"The result of the Chesterfield election makes it quite clear that the Unionist party is in a bad way, and, unless strong steps are taken, will be in opposition for years. One thing alone can save them."

One wondered what that all-powerful specific could possibly be. The explanation was forthcoming in these words:

"The home rule question must be settled by consent, if possible, and the Carsonite extremists must no longer staminate a great party into stupid blunders of civil war."

Many will agree with the writer in his characterization of the civil war threats, and will admire the courage which he has displayed in conveying the truth to his friends in no blunt a fashion.

There is more cheering in the ranks of the Tory party. A correspondent of the Tory Standard writes:

"The Tory press has made the startling discovery that three Liberal members of parliament are eager to resign. But Sir Wilfrid Laurier will not permit them to do so since their resignation would result in by-elections, and Sir Wilfrid is afraid to have any of his candidates face the people. The humorist who sent out this story should send out another, to explain why Mr. Borden does not dare to bring on by-elections in a number of constituencies which are not waiting for somebody to resign, but which are already vacant."

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MORNING NEWS OVER THE WIRES

Stirring speeches were delivered by Hon. H. R. Emmerson, F. J. Sweeney and P. J. Vennart at a Liberal rally in Memorandum on Saturday evening.

John Andrews, the Coalbrook constable who arrested W. T. Jerome on a charge of gambling, was himself arrested yesterday in New Hampshire charged with assisting a pauper woman to enter the United States contrary to the law.

Secretary of State Bryan has sent representations to the federal and constitutionalists of Mexico asking whether the reports that Morris P. Root, a nephew of Senator Root, has been killed in the southern republic are correct. Mexico celebrates the anniversary of its independence today, but Washington, in a statement yesterday, said that there was no alarm felt for the safety of Americans in Mexico on that account.

When the Canadian Manufacturers' Association open their annual convention in Halifax today a night lettergram sent by the Grain Growers' Guide, a trade paper, to R. S. Gourley, president.

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will be presented asking the co-operation of the manufacturers with the western grain growers in urging the government to reduce the tariff upon British imports to be followed by free trade with Great Britain in four years.

The engineer, flagman and conductor of the Bar Harbor train are held to be responsible for the disaster of two weeks ago at North Haven on the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railway. The corner's jury returned a verdict yesterday in which they said the rules of the road had been criminally disregarded by these employees and this was the cause of the wreck. The engineer, Miller, was arrested yesterday afternoon.

Hans Schmidt, the German priest, who murdered Anna Ammiller, according to his own confession, and cut her body into pieces, had intended at an early date to return to his home in Bavaria. A post card received by his parents indicated this. Another man, Dr. E. Maurer, a dentist, of New York, was arrested last night in connection with the case.

Mexico City, Sept. 15.—Dr. Aureliano Urrutia, Mexican minister of the interior, has left the cabinet. His resignation was accepted at midnight by Provisional President Huerta.

Dr. Urrutia is under charges preferred by Senator Manuel Calero, for arresting him in defiance of his immunity as senator.

Dr. Urrutia gave as the reason for his resignation of the ministry of the interior that the post required, qualities which he did not possess. He is a surgeon and had never before had experience in politics. His anti-foreign sentiments have not been disguised during his term of office and it is said that the foreign diplomats here were opposed to his retention in the cabinet. Dr. Urrutia was the author of the so-called Huerta ultimatum to the United States, which was promptly repudiated by Frederico Gambo, the foreign minister, Halifax, Sept. 15.—The steamer Ella Sawyer arrived at Parrishore Roads last night from Manchester. Captain reports that two days after sailing, James Scott, a fireman, walked out of the forecastle and jumped into the sea and was drowned.

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