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RECIPROCITY AND FOODSTUFFS.

The debates in the House of Commons on the reciprocity agreement are as interesting and instructive as the statistics of trade, both in industrial and natural products, between the United States and Canada. It is true that the latter are sometimes used in a manner that reflects little credit upon the debaters, but this fact does not alter their value.

We have in mind a strong argument adduced by Mr. Ames, M. P. for St. Antoine, Montreal, opposing reciprocity on the ground that the reduction of the tariff on importations of meats, butter and other dairy products from New Zealand would seriously imperil the markets of the Canadian producers of these articles. Mr. Ames discharged his duty to himself and to his party in a manner creditable to himself and satisfactory to those who would be likely to make the same deductions from his statistics as he does. Whether he represented his constituency is a matter that need not concern us, as it probably did not concern him. We propose, however, to show that the very arguments used by Mr. Ames in opposition to reciprocity are the same as those we should use ourselves in an endeavor to convince the consumers of foodstuffs in British Columbia that reciprocity must inure to their great advantage.

Mr. Ames, in his argument, shows that the present duty on meats of various kinds, with dairy and farm products, makes the exportation of these from Australia, New Zealand and the Argentine Republic unprofitable to the exporter if shipment is to Canada, and that the chief exportations of these foodstuffs are made to England, where, on account of free trade the market is better. The reasons why he thinks the abrogation of the duty on these products would injure the business of the Canadian farmer are well stated, and we give them in his own words though we do not agree with his conclusions. He says:

"Let us look at Australia, New Zealand and the Argentine Republic and see how far our farmers can compete with the farmers of these countries. We have in Canada a severe winter, during which prices usually go up and our farmers labor under climatic conditions which are a serious handicap. But the three countries I have mentioned have in the first place no severe winters, and in the second place, our winter is their summer. Consequently when our farmers have the smallest quantity of produce for their home market and expect their best prices, at that very time there is in each of these three countries the greatest surplus for export and prices are lower than at any other period."

The present duties as compared with the tariff that will obtain under reciprocity are also given, and the figures submitted by Mr. Ames are as follows:

	Formerly.	Now.
Meats	3c. lb.	1¼c.
Canned meats	27½ p. c.	20 p.c.
Mutton and lamb	3c.	1¼c.
Poultry	25 p. c.	free.
Tallow	20 p. c.	5 p.c.
Butter	4c. lb.	free.
Apples	40c. bbl.	free.
Grapes	2c. lb.	free.
Oranges	free.	free.
Peaches	$1 per 100 lbs.	free.
Salt and a few others	5c. per 100 lbs.	free.

Mr. Ames's contention is that "Australian butter coming in from the west and New Zealand butter coming in from the east will monopolize the market of half the continent," meeting the shipments of Ontario at Winnipeg and controlling the market to the Pacific coast. He says that if this agreement goes through chilled beef and mutton from Australia will flow into British Columbia, and there will not be a city or a mining camp in this province that will want Alberta beef. The same thing, he says, will be true of butter, cheese, poultry and eggs.

Superficially looked at, this argument appears sound and would no doubt appeal to the farmer of Alberta and the prairie provinces. But it has two fatal objections in so far as it applies to British Columbia.

We should not forget that Mr. Ames is a member of the party which has been wasting good time and oratory in pleading for a system of preferential tariffs within the Empire. Though that question has been laid for the present, it will do some good to show how inconsistent the opponents of reciprocity can be when they become special pleaders. The very same objections which Mr. Ames conjures up to oppose reciprocity would apply as against a preferential tariff within the Empire and must be equally repugnant in the latter case to the Alberta farmer. It does not matter what we do concerning foodstuffs imported from the United States, if we give a preference in favor of the different dominions of the Empire the effect will be the same. Mr. Ames evidently forgot that he was arguing as strongly against preference within the Empire as he was against reciprocity with the United States.

We may go much farther than this, however, in our criticism of the argument of Mr. Ames. He evidently spoke without a knowledge of the fact that one of our chief difficulties in British Columbia is under-production. The consumers of foodstuffs—and who is not one of these?—have constantly to complain of the high cost of living substance, and the answer they always receive is that freight and under-production and duties are responsible for these conditions. Mr. Ames says reciprocity would abolish these conditions and reduce the selling prices of these commodities in this province. There is not a laboring man in this country who would not welcome such a change in conditions no matter how it is brought about.

It is the constant complaint of hotelkeepers and restaurant men, as well as the householder, that the prices of foodstuffs prohibit a reasonable cost of living. The opponents of reciprocity have only one answer to this problem, and that answer is a system of preferential tariffs which, so far as the farmer of Alberta or of Ontario is concerned, must work out in exactly the same way as would reciprocity.

The opponents of reciprocity have, unintentionally it is true, shown the working men and the consumers generally—at least in British Columbia—one way out of their difficulty. Since preference within the Empire is vetoed, let us have reciprocity—the only other method by which we can bring down the cost of living to something within the reach of the toiler and the wage-earner throughout the west.

We are quite content to have the Conservatives marshalling statistics of probable trade effects of reciprocity so long as they point us so conclusively to the pathway of deliverance from the unbearable cost of living under existing tariff conditions.

THE PROBABLE OUTCOME.

Now that the question of preference in the matter of an agreement between the various overseas Dominions and Great Britain is laid, it may be admissible to make some forecast as to the prospects for the endorsement of the reciprocity agreement in the Senate of the United States, by which, it may be said, the passing of the agreement in the Canadian parliament will be influenced. The Washington correspondents of the leading papers agree that it is upon the support of the Democratic senators that the ratification of the agreement must depend. Of the 39 Democratic senators no less than 36 have announced their unqualified support of the measure. Of the Republican senators it is said that the President can rely upon only 11, and some of these are said to be supporting the measure only out of regard for the president. This, however, is sufficient to give a clear majority in its favor.

The appraisement of the situation leads to the conclusion that for a Republican Senate to reject a measure upon which the President, who is himself the head of the party, had staked his political fate, would be to condemn the party to a wholesale and ruinous defeat in the presidential campaign of next year. It is admitted that President Taft is the only Republican candidate who has any chance of election at the next appeal, and however disgruntled the party may feel at the summary disposal of the protective policy of the Republicans, a rejection of the moderate reduction proposed under the reciprocity pact would be to play into the hands of the Democrats, whose free trade policy is well known.

It is, therefore, under the unavoidable necessity of granting a measure of tariff reduction, even with a wry face, or the turning over of the affairs of the country to the Democrats, who will make short work of the tariff restrictions of the American Conservative party. It is this policy of self and party preservation which will decide the issue in the United States senate.

It is less easy to forecast what line of action will be adopted by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in relation to the matter in the Canadian parliament. The opposition members were, up till the moment of adjournment, clamoring unitedly for an appeal to the country before redistribution takes place. We opine that this depends largely upon the decision of the Prime Minister. The Winnipeg Free Press thinks it quite possible that Sir Wilfrid will allow the opposition to think they are obstructing the bill till the opportune moment arrives for an appeal to the country. It adds significantly: "They may have occasion during another term in opposition to reflect that, not for the first time, they unwittingly played the game of the wily old general who has, four times within the last fifteen years, overthrown them in pitched battles."

"A FALSE ALARM."

The News-Advertiser of Sunday morning last published what it was pleased to call a "scathing indictment" of the Dominion government by Mr. George H. Cowan, M. P., who had arrived at Vancouver on the previous day from Ottawa. Mr. Cowan, it will not yet be forgotten by people resident outside of Vancouver, is the representative in parliament of that progressive city, while the residents of Vancouver are never permitted to forget that painful fact. It was Mr. Cowan who, on returning to his constituents at the close of a former session, delivered himself of a "scathing criticism" of the Premier of Canada, who was then described in an exuberance of feeling, as a "white-livered coward," and it was the same gentleman who, during the debate on the navy, literally "turned himself loose" and excoriated Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the government and the naval policy—tore them all into tatters—and then went over the ruin when he realized the awful humiliation he had caused the objects of his frenzied objurgations.

Mr. Cowan is a very remarkable man. In private political life he is as amiable as Mary's little lamb and would never be suspected of harboring a hard thought against any person or party; but in public political life—that is, on the stump, in parliament, or in giving interviews to the press—he is transformed into an irresponsible and virulent "scold." When the party microbe in his brain gets working, Mr. Cowan's self-control disappears and he forthwith becomes a raving lunatic. That, of course, is meant only in a political sense; in all other respects he remains as sane as ever, and when the fever subsides no one would imagine that such an innocent lamb could ever have presented a ferocious appearance.

Mr. Cowan, the reporter related, "paced his study" while he unfolded a few of his opinions about the Ottawa government. A little physical exercise was necessary to relieve the severe mental strain, and hence the member for Vancouver, imagining for the moment that he was on a public platform, harangued his appreciative audience of one upon the iniquities of the government. He gave utterance to some extraordinary statements; in fact, Mr. Cowan never made a political speech that was not marked with a few declarations of a most violent and untruthful character. But they are only intended to give piquancy to what would otherwise be flat and unpalatable, just as Mr. Cowan's soup is always enriched by copious additions of tobasco and red pepper.

When fiercely "pacing his study" Mr. Cowan said that Sir Wilfrid Laurier was so anxious to cultivate trade relations with the United States that he was unwilling to go to the Imperial Conference, and that he was compelled to change his mind by Mr. Borden. Sir Wilfrid had his passage engaged for London months before, and when it was feared he would not be able to go it was because the obstructive tactics of Mr. Borden were being resorted to, apparently, to prevent his going.

On the Japanese treaty Mr. Cowan indulged in some characteristic flights of imagination, and that means much, for Mr. Cowan's imagination has no limitations. Said he, speaking to the scribe as he "paced his study," and referring to the bill to continue the tariff schedules of the present treaty with Japan for two years, pending the negotiation of a new treaty:

"Correspondence revealed the astounding fact for the first time to the people of Canada, that the government had entered into a secret agreement with Japan, independent of the present treaty, and not expiring with the present treaty. By this agreement all Japanese citizens have, and shall continue to have, the free right of entry, residence and travel in Canada," etc.

The "astounding fact" that Canada made an agreement with Japan, three or four years ago, limiting the emigration of Japanese to Canada was then learned by Mr. Cowan for the first time. True, every school-boy in Vancouver knew about it long ago, and everybody knows, save Mr. Cowan, that the agreement is working admirably, that Canada sees that it is lived up to, and that under its operation more Japanese are annually leaving Canada for Japan than are coming to Canada from Japan. And then letting his tongue run riot more viciously than before, as he "paced his study," Mr. Cowan declared that Japanese were now coming into Canada, and it was proposed to admit Chinamen on more favorable terms than Englishmen, Scotsmen or Irishmen. That was the culminating statement, and the faithful reporter reported it without qualifying it or modifying it in the interest of the reputation of the "honorable gentleman from Vancouver." After such a flight, the closing statement that "every man in the Conservative party is loyally behind Mr. Borden and there is no question of any other leader," may be permitted to pass at its face value, although the sting in the last words will be felt by the conspirators—of whom the member for Victoria is alleged to have been one—who undertook, only a few months ago, to kick Borden out and put McBride in. But perhaps the Ottawa dinner disposed of McBride forever, and there is now "no question of any other leader" at Ottawa. This declaration by Mr. Cowan about the leadership will have a reassuring effect on British Columbia Conservatives. It is not the whole truth, but it is nearer the truth than any of the other statements made by the member for Vancouver as he "paced his study" and loaded the receptive reporter with a little fact and much fiction and so distinguished himself for the third time, as "a false alarm," a description he will pardon us for using, because it was once applied by himself to no less a personage than the Premier of Canada.

Altogether in the United States and Canada there are 46,077 miles of railroad on which trains are dispatched by telephone, of which the C. P. R. and the other Canadian roads operate 4,360.

UNSELFISH, PATRIOTIC, ALTRUISTIC.

The paper makers, the woollen manufacturers, the lumber interests, and the manufacturers at large, of the United States are fighting reciprocity to the last ditch. And they are carrying on the campaign in a cunning way. They think the people might charge them with interested motives if they appeared too eager to accomplish the end of the movement for freer trade. Hence they quietly subscribe a handsome campaign fund, put it into the hands of a couple of "business agents"—or legislative lobbyists—and instruct them to appear before the American Senate in the guise of advocates of the cause of the National Grange, which is an organization of farmers. Of course the Colonist will say these men mask their movements and disguise their attack because they are interested in maintaining high wages for their employees. They put their hands into their own pockets and pay up handsomely not because they hope to be permitted to continue the peaceful and lucrative pursuit of picking the pockets of the American people generally but because they dread to see the workingmen reduced to a state of beggary as a result of a reduction of taxation through the instrumentality of reciprocity.

The National Grange of the United States has an understudy in Canada. There is an organization in Montreal which has raised a million dollars or so for the purpose of fighting reciprocity, preventing the annexation of this country to the United States, and incidentally to stand between the poor workingman and penury. This voluntary association is composed entirely of manufacturers and financial men. It represents big interests. But our philanthropic, altruistic, patriotic institution is not putting its millions into the hands of business agents or lobbyists in order to accomplish its benevolent purposes. It has a better scheme than that. It has engaged the Conservative party as its tool. It flaunts itself on the floor of Parliament. Its millions have become a campaign fund and will be applied in the direction in which the most good—from its disinterested point of view—shall be accomplished. No one with an eye to see and an understanding to comprehend will deny for a moment that the motives of the "interests" with their head centre in Montreal are disinterested in the highest degree. The fight which is now on, and which will prove historic, is made to appear not for the continuance of abnormal profits but for the rights of the oppressed workingman. Verily, the "interests" and the party which has made itself agent of the interests ought to have their reward.

LONGSHOREMEN MEET AT SEATTLE JUNE 12

Will Gather From All Points on Coast to Discuss Unionizing Workers

Seattle, June 1.—Delegates from forty-three locals of the Pacific Coast district of the Longshoremen's Association will meet at Seattle on June 12 for their annual convention. J. A. Madsen, Portland, Ore., the secretary-treasurer of the organization is notifying the officers of the various locals to appoint representatives to send to the convention. The convention in turn will appoint delegates to attend the international convention which will be held in London July 10.

The convention will be in session several days. It will be made up of delegates from British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, California and the Hawaiian Islands. The largest attendance is looked for since the organization was formed. Aside from the appointment of delegates to the international convention, the matter of unionizing the longshore workers on the Sound may be taken up.

SURRENDER TO POLICE.

Muskogee, Okla., June 1.—Pony Starr and Joe Davis, who after a desperate battle with a posse at Porum on Monday, in which five men were killed, surrendered to county officers here yesterday, remained to-day at the home of Davis' father here, where they barricaded themselves last night in expectation of an attack from a mob of Porum citizens. All was quiet, and it is believed the wrath of the Porum citizens, who are said to have threatened to lynch Starr and Davis, has subsided. Several more arrests as a result of the fight at Porum are expected to-day.

TO ESTABLISH CEMENT DEPOTS.

London, June 1.—It is expected that the Canada Cement Company will before long enter into closer working arrangements with the Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers' Association, which recently announced its intention of establishing works and depots in various foreign countries. Canada is not included, as the directors contemplate arrangements with the Canada Cement Company, which will obviate the necessity of fresh works in Canada. There is, however, no proposal that the Canadian company will become an integral part of the English concern.

FINED FOR SPEEDING OVER THE CAUSEWAY

Number of Machine Was Not Distinct—Second Owner Also Pays a $20 Fine

(From Thursday's Daily.)

James Wood, of the Wood Auto Company, Ltd., was charged in the police court this morning, as owner of an automobile, with speeding across the causeway, the actual offence having been comitteed in Mr. Wood's car by his chauffeur, William Askey. He was convicted and fined $20. His solicitor, J. H. Austin, announced that an appeal would probably be taken against the conviction.

The evidence against defendant was given by Sergt. Beckton, who said the machine had speeded across the causeway and that the number being indistinct he had cantered after the machine on his horse and overtaken it beyond the post office. Then he warned the chauffeur that his number was not plain and charged him with speeding.

The defence of the driver was that he crossed the causeway at less than ten miles an hour, and he called another driver, Henry Davis, who passed his machine at the centre of the causeway. Davis swore Askey was not making beyond eight miles an hour, and he judged the speed from that of his own machine, on which there was a speedometer.

The magistrate, in making the conviction, said the machine had pased the other automobile, and the speed must have been greater than its driver thought. The constable had to gallop to catch the offender.

John W. Moore paid a $20 fine for speeding by his chauffeur, and a charge against F. Lansberg was set over till to-morrow for the production of additional evidence by the prosecution.

HOSPITAL AND CITY ARE NOW ON TERMS

Joint Conference to Decide Financial Arrangements and Other Important Points

(From Thursday's Daily.)

A conference between the city council and the directors of the Jubilee hospital was held in the city hall this afternoon for the purpose of considering the advisability of departing from the present system whereby the city pays a lump sum annually toward the upkeep of the institution, and adopting the suggestion of Dr. G. A. B. Hall, the medical health officer of the city of Victoria, to pay so much per capita.

The city council has already discussed the question when it came up in the medical health officer's report, and it is generally understood that it is favorable to the plan. As it would not be fair to dispose of the matter arbitrarily without taking the directors of the institution into consultation with them, the Mayor and aldermen arranged the conference for this afternoon.

It is possible that as a result of the conference between the parties a better understanding will be arrived at in connection with other matters of interest to both. For instance, the admission of patients has always been a sore point, and it is likely that an arrangement will be outlined as a result of the meeting whereby the sole jurisdiction in that important department will be vested in the hands of the medical health officer.

That the conference will result in a general all-round benefit is a certainty. Had such a function been held before many of the criticisms that are at the present time legitimate would be out of the question.

HUDSON'S BAY RAILWAY.

Contractors Consult Officials at Ottawa Regarding Construction Work.

Ottawa, May 31.—Contractors are here to-day consulting officials of railway department with reference to the construction of the first 180 miles of Hudson's Bay railway, for which tenders are to be asked. The line will be built first from the Pas northwards, and will cost approximately $4,000,000. The contractors figure on having supplies on the ground next fall, and on having work completed by the end of 1912.

POWER SUB-STATION BURNED.

Cobalt, Ont., May 30.—The sub-station of the Mines Power Company at Beaver lake, South Lorrain, was destroyed by fire yesterday. Several buildings in the neighborhood were also destroyed. A large quantity of oil took fire and the flames spread to the bush. The Keeley, Wettlaufer and other mines in the district had all their forces out checking the progress of the flames.

ATTEMPTED MURDER.

Grand Forks, B. C., May 31.—J. D. Dibble, rancher, was shot twice in the body by his step-son on his ranch near Curlew, Wash., yesterday, but owing to the latter being under the influence of liquor, his aim was not true and Dibble will recover.

REBEL EXECUTED.

San Diego, Cal., May 31.—Capt. Tony Vegas, of the rebel forces of Ti Juana, who shot and killed a Mexican named Pachicho during a row, was taken out and executed by a rebel firing squad soon after sunrise to-day.

Sir Edgar Vincent, of London, advocates an export tax on paintings of old masters, declaring that pictures leaving England for America in an ordinary year were worth between $5,000,000 and $10,000,000, so that a 10 per cent. tax would yield from $500,000 to $1,000,000.

To practice hypnotism is illegal in Belgium.

THE CITY MARKET

Oils—	
Pratt's Coal Oil	1.00
Eocene	1.75
Meats—	
Hams (B. C.), per lb.	.30@ .32
Bacon (B. C.), per lb.	.25@ .28
Ham (American), per lb.	.32
Bacon (American), per lb.	.22
Bacon (long clear), per lb.	.30
Beef, per lb.	.10@ .30
Pork, per lb.	.10@ .25
Mutton, per lb.	.15@ .30
Lamb, hindquarter	2.50@ 3.00
Lamb, forequarter	1.75@ 2.00
Veal, per lb.	.10@ .30
Suet, per lb.	.15
Farm Produce—	
Fresh Island Eggs	.40
Butter, Cowichan	.50
Butter, Victoria	.40
Butter, Salt Spring	.40
Butter (Eastern Townships)	.35
Lard, per lb.	.30
Western Canada Flour Mills—	
Purity, per sack	1.80
Purity, per bbl.	7.10
Hungarian Flour—	
Ogilvie's Royal Household, per sack	1.80
Ogilvie's Royal Household, per bbl.	7.10
Robin Hood, per sack	1.80
Robin Hood, per bbl.	7.10
Vancouver Milling Co., Hungarian, per sack	1.80
Vancouver Milling Co. Hungarian, per bbl.	7.10
Lake of Woods, per sack	1.80
Lake of Woods, per bbl.	7.10
Calgary Hungarian, per sack	1.80
Calgary Hungarian, per bbl.	7.10
Enderby, per sack	1.80
Enderby, per bbl.	7.10
Pastry Flours—	
Silver Bell	1.75
Snowflake, per sack	1.75
Snowflake, per bbl.	7.00
Vancouver Milling Co., Wild Rose	1.75
Drifted Snow, per sack	1.75
Grain—	
Wheat, chicken feed, per ton	35.00@40.00
Wheat, per lb.	.02½
Barley	40.00
Whole Corn	35.00
Cracked Corn	37.00
Oats	35.00
Crushed Oats	37.00
Rolled Oats (B. & K.), 7-lb. sk.	.35
Rolled Oats (B. & K.), 20-lb. sk.	.90
Rolled Oats (B. & K.), 40-lb. sk.	1.90
Rolled Oats (B. & K.), 80-lb. sk.	3.50
Oatmeal, 10-lb. sack	.50
Oatmeal, [illegible]-lb. sack	1.25
Rolled Wheat, 10 lbs.	.35
Cracked Wheat, 10 lbs.	.35
Wheat Flakes, per packet	.12½@ .35
Whole Wheat Flour, 10 lbs.	.45
Graham Flour, 10 lbs.	.50
Graham Flour, 50 lbs.	1.75
Feed—	
Hay (baled), per ton	22.00@25.00
Straw, per ton	16.00
Middlings, per ton	33.00
Bran, per ton	32.00
Ground Feed, per ton	33.00
Shorts	33.00
Poultry—	
Dressed Fowl, per lb.	.30@ .35
Ducks, per lb.	.25@ .30
Geese (Island), per lb.	.20@ .25
Garden Produce—	
Cabbage, per lb.	.03
Potatoes (local)	3.00
Seed Potatoes, per sack	3.25
Onions, per lb.	.05
Carrots, per lb.	.02

WHOLESALE MARKET.

Bacon	.21
Hams	.17
Lard	.13½
Cheese	.15½@ .16
Creamery Butter	.30
Eggs	.26@ .33
Apples	3.75
Bananas	.05½
Beets, per sack	2.50
Cabbage, per lb.	.04@ .04½
Cranberries, per bbl.	12.50@14.00
Cauliflower, per doz.	2.00
Grapefruit, per box	4.00
Lemons	4.50@ 5.50
Lettuce, per crate	1.50
Oranges, Navel, case	3.25@ 4.00
Potatoes, per ton	48.00
Onions (Australian), per cwt.	5.00
Turnips, per sack	2.50
Haddies, per lb.	.10
Salmon, per lb.	.10
Almonds, per lb.	.20
Chestnuts, per lb.	.15
Filberts, per lb.	.07
Peanuts, roasted	.10
Walnuts, per lb.	.16@ .21
Dates, per lb.	.07½@ .08½
Figs, per lb.	.10@ .12
Cucumbers (hot-house), per doz.	1.75
Artichokes (Rose), per doz.	1.00
Parsley	.40
Watercress	.40
Asparagus (local)	.10@ .12½
Radishes, per doz.	.25
Mint, fresh	.60
Green Onions	.40
Strawberries, per crate	3.00@ 5.50
Rhubarb (local)	.02½
New Potatoes	.06
New Green Peas	.09
Sweet Potatoes	.08@ .09
Cherries	2.75

PUBLIC WARNING.

Hon. R. McBride Urges Investors to Use Caution and Discrimination.

London, June 1.—Hon. Richard McBride, Premier of British Columbia, has found it necessary to issue a public warning through the Canadian Gazette regarding the unsoundness of some British Columbia propositions placed here. He says the British investors must thoroughly investigate the reliability of the promoters and secure independent reports where possible, using ordinary caution and discrimination, not snapping up everything.

Hon. A. L. Sifton, Premier of Alberta, also strongly advises investors to visit his province and judge for themselves of the illimitable openings for the profitable use of British money.

DIAZ WILL LIVE IN SPAIN.

Vera Cruz, Mex., June 1.—The Hamburg-American liner Ypirango with ex-President Porfiro Diaz of Mexico and his party aboard, sailed from this port to-day for Havre, France. The steamer goes to Europe by way of Havana. General Diaz's present intention is to make his home in Spain.

SEEKING SEPARATION.

London, June 1.—The suit of Irene Osgood, the American authoress, for a judicial separation from her husband, Robert Harborough Sherard, the English author, was ended yesterday. Judgment was reserved, the judge twice attempting to arrange a settlement of the suit, but failing.

VIEW STREET OPEN FOR TRAFFIC NOW

Thoroughfare Will Relieve Difficulty of Eastbound Travellers in the City

Much of the inconvenience which vehicular travellers and pedestrians have experienced for some time past in moving in a northerly direction on Fort street or View street, has been removed by the completion last night of the paving of the latter thoroughfare. The Worswick Paving Company, which had the contract, executed their commission last night, and to-day View street is open to traffic of all kinds. Of course it will be understood that this does not apply to that part of the street which lies between Broad street and Government street, which has yet to be laid, but to that larger tract of the thoroughfare which extends from Broad to last street to Cook street.

Now that View street is completed attention will be directed toward the improvement of Fort street, the condition of which has recently evoked a good deal of criticism. It is the intention of the B. C. Electric Company to renew the car line. The new rails will be of the heavy description, and in order to preserve them in their sockets they will be embedded in about four inches of concrete. Needless to say the completion of this work will be watched with the greatest attention, as it is a matter in which the citizens are deeply interested. Fort street is one of the principal business thoroughfares of the city, and during the past few months many expressions of disapproval have been emitted at its retaining the aspect of the haphazard roadway, while other portions of the city have been forging modern and wholesome appearances for themselves.

The B. C. Electric Company will also lay the heavier rails on Government street on the section between Belleville street and Superior street, which the city has decided to pave. In order to avert a stoppage of the traffic on this part of the street during the railing operation a switch similar to that which was employed recently on Yates street will be requisitioned from Vancouver. On the part of the city's car service the new rails will be laid on the centre of the street instead of on the side, as is at present the case.

NOTES ON POULTRY RAISING FOR MARKET

No. VIII.

Before considering the brooder house which should have formed the subject of this article, the writer ventures to refer again to the question of the amount of moisture which it is advisable to use when hatching eggs. He has been able to collect a few data which all tend to show that a considerable amount of moisture should be supplied, whether the eggs are being hatched by the natural or the artificial process. In the case of some hens set in Victoria by the writer's partner, the ground round the nests was drenched with water three times during the hatch with excellent results. One hen brought off eleven chicks and the others hatching from 75 per cent to 85 per cent of the eggs given them—120 odd chickens were raised in this way—a sufficient number, probably, to justify the opinion that the addition of moisture will generally prove advisable.

Two hundred and twenty eggs were set in a machine by the writer's partner in town, of which 173 proved fertile and 120 chicks hatched. The writer is informed that though considerable moisture was used during the hatch about 30 chickens died in the shell after pipping, being unable to get out, and the indications are that if the chicks which hatched had not been exceptionally vigorous, the mortality from lack of moisture would have been very much greater. It is at least a working theory that the failure of so many hatches this season has been due to the fact that the germs were not over-vigorous in the eggs set, and that mortality at all stages of the hatch from lack of moisture was very great. The writer believes that cases where an excess of moisture has produced failure are very rare, and that in the vast majority of cases in South Africa and probably here, failure is due to a considerable deficiency of moisture during the hatch. In Utah and Colorado moisture is used during almost the entire hatch, and the writer had to do the same in South Africa. As the season wears on and more evidence on this point is forthcoming the writer will publish the data from time to time.

He also hopes to show that the theory that June hatched chicks do not do well on account of the heat and the vermin is not a tenable one. He hatched chickens in the Barberton valley in a temperature which frequently reached 95 degrees, and these were raised successfully.

The explanation of failure in June hatched chickens must be sought elsewhere. The original habitat of the fowl was India, probably, and the heat theory seems unsatisfactory, therefore, on general grounds. The cause, to which the writer will devote several articles, is almost certainly to be found in the fact that the drying up of vegetation in a fierce heat accentuates a shortage of certain materials which are essential to growing stock. The writer gave several years of his life to ascertain what these materials were and how best to supply them. His investigations have been confirmed by the chemists and poultry experts of two governments, the English and the Transvaal, and he hopes shortly to establish that this shortage exists in Vancouver Island to a degree which accounts for the difficulty in raising chicks in the hot weather. Experiments with fowls, horses and cows now in progress go to show almost conclusively that the grasses and foodstuffs available to the farm animals in this country are deficient in materials vital to the processes of life of the animals.

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