

The Colonist.

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LORD SALISBURY'S SPEECH.

The Canadian Liberals who have the honor to assert that free trade has not done serious injury to the agricultural interests of Great Britain would do well to seriously study the speech delivered by Lord Salisbury in Waterford on Wednesday.

The British Premier is a man of great ability. He perhaps knows as much about the public affairs of Great Britain during the past fifty years as any man living.

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WHITE'S EXPLANATIONS.

His Manifesto to His Constituents—In Accord with the Government On the School Question.

He Recommends the Electors of Cardwell to Remain True to Conservative Principles.

MONTREAL, Oct. 31.—The much-expected manifesto which Robert S. White said he would issue to his constituents of Cardwell in explanation of his resignation of his seat in parliament has been published.

Following is that portion of it which deals with his resignation: "Having resigned the seat in the House of Commons with which you honored me in 1888, and again in 1891, it becomes my duty to acquaint you with the reasons that have moved me to take this step, and thus sever the, to me, always pleasant relations existing between us for now several years.

You may remember that on the occasion of the election of 1891 I gave you my pledge to withdraw my confidence from the government in the event of the then recently enacted school legislation of Manitoba being passed by the Dominion government.

My opinion at that time, as now, was that the legislation of the provinces affecting education should not be interfered with by the exercise of the veto power, but that its constitutionality, if challenged in any quarter, ought to be left to the decision of the courts.

This view was held by the late Sir John Thompson, and I may say was shared by the whole parliamentary party, save only a wing of the opposition.

It is not my intention to recount the various phases this vexed Manitoba school question has undergone since 1891. At every step the courts, and the courts alone, have been allowed to determine the validity of appeals for redress made by the Roman Catholic minority of the province, until finally, as a result of the judgment of the judicial committee of the privy council, the governor-general-in-council was called upon to act.

You are familiar with the steps which have since been taken. To Manitoba has been committed the duty of providing redress for the minority, and falling action on the part of the authorities of that province, the whole matter will become vested in the parliament of Canada, under the terms of the constitution.

It may be that the Manitoba government will, as will remove this vexed and difficult question from the federal domain, or again if legislation is introduced in parliament it will be of such a scope and character as to ally the fear and disarm the opposition of those who advocated equal rights in the matter of education, including in that term a common standard of education upon all classes, certification of teachers, uniform standard of excellence in and official inspection of all state aided schools, whether they be designated public or separate.

Despite, however, the altered circumstances of the question since 1891, when I gave you the pledge to which I have alluded, I have been unwilling to await the advent of the approaching session of parliament with my hands less free, as I conceive, than those of your representative should be, to deal with the subject in whatever form it may present itself.

As you are aware, my name has been coupled with the office of collector of customs at the port of Montreal, vacant since 1893, and which still remains so. Not long since representations were made to the government by the board of trade of this city setting forth the desirability, in the interest of the business of the port, of appointing a collector at an early day.

Inasmuch as I have the honor to be a resident of this city, and inasmuch as I have been unwilling to await the advent of the approaching session of parliament with my hands less free, as I conceive, than those of your representative should be, to deal with the subject in whatever form it may present itself.

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ABOUT RIGHT.

This is how the Toronto Telegram, a thoroughly independent paper, speaks about Mr. Laurier's dodging at Elmira the other day: "Like the temperance man who took the glass of whiskey by way of showing he was no bigot, Wilfrid Laurier acquainted the Berlin audience with the mental reservations which are a conspicuous feature of his tariff policy."

Berlin is a stronghold of protection. In 1891 its majority against the candidate of unrestricted reciprocity was over five hundred. E. W. B. Snider, the Liberal nominee for North Waterloo, is not entering upon a crusade against the interests of the manufacturers. He is evidently open to conviction on the question of protection, so far as it relates to his own constituency, and he was followed on the same line, though at a respectful distance, by his leader.

The Opposition tariff policy seems to be fragmentary, but the party's desire for office is one harmonious whole, and if the country gratifies that desire by placing the Liberal in power at Ottawa, they will place the tariff fragments of their policy together in some sort of an arrangement which will not do the manufacturer much harm or the farmer much good.

B. C. SALMON IN ENGLAND.

A cable message received yesterday by the Premier, Hon. J. H. Turner, from the Agent-General of this Province in London, contained the gratifying announcement that the sender, Hon. Forbes G. Vernon, had received official assurance from the Fishmongers' Company that they will take no action prejudicial to the sale of British Columbia salmon in England.

The incident thus closed afforded another illustration of the advantage of having wide-awake representatives in England. It will be remembered that a few weeks ago exception was taken to the sale of a consignment of Canadian salmon which had arrived in London in cold storage, the allegation being made that the fish were in reality not salmon at all, but bull-trout, which at this season may not lawfully be sold in England.

The Canadian High Commissioner took the matter up at once, and secured from Professor Prince, the Dominion commissioner of fisheries, an emphatic declaration that the fish were the true salmon. Professor Prince has only recently come from the Old Country, where his reputation as an authority on such matters stands so high that his testimony could not well be questioned.

The Fishmongers' Company have therefore abandoned the contention, which in view of its serious nature it is not to their credit that they should have made without good cause.

According to Bradstreet's strikes and lockouts are very expensive luxuries to both employers and employees. They cause a great waste both of money and of energy, and they do very little good indeed. Bradstreet's of the 26th ult. contains the following synopsis of the report of the United States Commissioner of Labor:

Some highly interesting conclusions are suggested by the statistics of strikes collected in the report of the Commissioner of Labor, referred to in another column. It will not escape the attention of the observant reader that while over two-thirds of the strikes in the last seven and a half years were ordered by organizations of employers, less than a fifth of the lockouts were ordered by organizations of employers.

The employers seem to have had a little the best of the labor contests during the period, for, while both sides had the same percentage of partial success, the percentage of complete success was higher in the case of the lockouts than in the case of strikes. Again, the number of persons thrown