

Reciprocity and the Horse Trade

Adoption of the Treaty Means a Serious and Perhaps Fatal Blow to An Industry That Has Become of Prime Importance to Toronto and the Province of Ontario.

Destruction of the Western Market Probable, While the Business Interests of Buffalo and Chicago Will be Greatly Advanced—Points for Consideration by the People and Especially for Those Interested in Live Stock Matters—How the Breeder Will Suffer.

After all this question of reciprocity with our neighbors is not a question of this interest or that interest, but whether it will prove for the good of the whole. In this matter the majority must rule as they do and should in everything else. But when a practical revolution is proposed in a settled policy—in a policy that sweeps the country and a policy that the successors to the originators could not make up their minds to upset—the people have a right to be as directly heard as possible and every interest, directly affected or indirectly affected, has a claim to a voice. In every change it is unavoidable that somebody should be benefited. It is also unavoidable that somebody should be placed at a disadvantage. The question then is—will the country, at large be the better for the proposed change in our policy and attitude towards the United States? Will it increase our prosperity, or will it check it, or will it tend to a reversal?

National Aspirations.
In addition, there is the national or imperial side. Will the adoption of the change in policy interfere with our national or imperial aspirations? That is a phase which all the people should be given time to consider, being a matter entirely apart from business or commercial concern. In such circumstances, whether congress approves the treaty or does not, it is to be hoped the people will be given a chance to be heard. It is a matter above party consideration—a matter that should not be decided by the lash of the whip, or by the opinions of individual representatives chosen when the proposition had not been heard or thought of. In short it is a matter that preeminently calls either for a referendum or a new general election. Both President Taft and Premier Laurier appear to be disposed to rush the adoption of the treaty through. If they succeed, whether there be bolts from the Liberal or Democratic ranks, or from Democratic or Republican, they will be guilty not only of a subversion of public rights but also of constitutional methods.

Toronto's interests.

Probably no city in Canada, not

tion than the United States. The one has many children who are growing into manhood and womanhood, and acquiring that independence which naturally accrues with healthy development. The other, the United States, apart from its recent nominal acquisitions from Spain, is a unit closely knit. This is an aspect that should be well studied before arriving at a conclusion on a question of momentous and vital importance.

Light-Hearted Ambassadors.
Messrs. Fielding and Patterson, like the late Prince Napoleon in his position of ambassador, went into the negotiations with a light heart and an apparent determination to accomplish something. In their negotiations they succeeded, but now comes the fierce glare of public opinion and the fiercer it burns the better for the country and especially for the live stock interests which everything considered have probably the most at stake.

BREEDERS AND SELLERS.
Where and How Their Interests are Affected by the Proposed Treaty.

It has been said that Toronto's interests are of the type that are not easily suggested that the live stock trade is vitally concerned. These statements are undoubtedly true. In every branch of the live stock trade, Toronto's interests in recent years especially have wonderfully grown. If free trade is adopted with our neighbors, as proposed, what will the effect be? Will not greater quantities be shipped directly to Chicago and Buffalo, via alien middle men, who will pay no more than now if as much, and will not the entire north-western and western trade slip away? At present Toronto and Ontario generally, do a thriving business in horses with the more distant parts of the country. If this reciprocity treaty passes buyers in a measure will find it equally as advantageous to go to Chicago in one direction, Buffalo in another and the New England States in a third as to come to Toronto. Thus a business that liberal enterprise has fostered and which has been so beneficially affected if not entirely destroyed.

Trade With the West.
To show the extent of the trade with the west that has been established it is only necessary to state that the week before last 29 carloads of horses, or at 18 to a car, 522 head, passed through and at this season rarely more than twenty-five cars per week find their way in the same direction. This means not only the expenditure of much western money in the purchase of horses, but also for traveling, for supplies and so on. It means more—it means the keeping of the nation's business in its own hands. Consider the welfare of the whole this may appear a small matter—but it looms large in the effect it will have on vested interests, on importations and breeding.

Effect on Breeding.
Systematic and energetic efforts have been made by private parties, regretfully not by government, to improve the breed of horses by importations. If the reciprocity treaty goes into effect inferior bred animals will be rushed into the country, and Chicago, St. Paul and Minneapolis will become the depots of trade, with the result that our breeders will be discouraged and much of the good work that has been done by the keeping of records and the encouragement of breeding to type will be nullified. Progress in fact will be stopped and we shall be almost entirely at the mercy of our neighbors, who will ship their best stuff over here. They have been doing this with a tariff in force—how much more will they do it when the road is free and open?

Fear of Disease.
A prominent vet. who spent many years in the States, but who is now once more quartered in Canada, in an atmosphere of which country apparently suits him best, on being spoken to as to the effect of the treaty, on the live stock trade, said: "Oh, we have the mallein test, which will prevent disease coming in." He seemed to think disease was the only thing to be feared. Our neighbors have the same test, but an inferior low bred brute can be just as abnormally healthy as a fine bred one. Health is an important point, but there are such things as stamina, strength and conformation. And if we are to have free importations we want some safeguard against the deterioration of our stables, our herds and our flocks in other ways than by certificates of health. Besides the mallein test, efficient as it may be as regards tubercular affections, is not altogether as efficient in other directions.

A Premium on Bogus Pedigrees.
Free entry will make the work of the national record board at Ottawa ever so much more difficult, if indeed, it does not to a very large extent destroy its efficiency, for with no certificate of breeding necessary to secure free entry, not only bogus pedigrees will be forced on buyers, but there will be no extra inducement to register at all except for show purposes. So much for the breeding phase of the situation.

Effect on Toronto's Trade.
The buying phase can be disposed of in a few words. Why will the western market be destroyed as far as Toronto and Ontario at large are concerned? Because of the saving of transportation expenses and of time. The duty made the balance even as Ontario bred animals can be more relied on western buyers came here. With the duty removed the market here will be partially destroyed, breeders will lack encouragement, and the trend will be backwards instead of forward. So far as eastern buyers are concerned—expenses to points in the United States are not more than to Toronto and novelty and the prospect of a wider range of choice are bound to have their effect. Besides quantities as well as qualities regulate prices.

Leave Well Enough Alone.
Altho there is much difference of opinion abroad as to the advantages or disadvantages that will accrue to the live stock trade if the treaty is adopted, on the whole it appears we would be better advised to leave well enough alone. Year by year improvement has been manifest, but what of the future, watchman, what of the future?

POP.
Prince Greenlander, 2194, a fast but erratic trotter, owned a few years ago by F. G. Schmidt, of the New York Driving Club, won a dash race of five miles on the ice at Montreal last week. He covered the distance in 13.05, which is probably the best time on record. He was owned by the late J. C. Patterson, five-mile record on ice is 12.34, made by Conductor at Ottawa six years ago.

BUSINESS PAST NO MARKET FOR FOREIGNERS IN THE STATES

Business in the Past Week Rather Lighter Than Usual Owing to Recent Storms—Local Market Fairly Good—Sales to Come.

Recent storms have necessarily had some effect on shipments in all directions, but especially north and west. Still there has been something doing and the local market is fairly brisk. There was an undoubted weakening of prices as well as a lessening of demand, which is something first holders should make a note of as indicating the fluctuations and risk. The proposed reciprocity treaty has also had a disturbing effect and as time goes on it may be depended on to have more. One horseman from the Niagara district was heard to say on Saturday: "So Sir Wilfrid told the fruit men they were too late with their representations until they knew? I am a 'Liberal' but I am sorry to say that the Premier has insulted the intelligence of the whole nation. Another thing I want to tell you is that the Americans are capturing the country. Good Day." That will show how serious one horse man at least considers the situation.

Sales For the Week.
Monday, Feb. 13, 11 a. m.—At Maher's Horse Exchange, 350 horses, including some extra fine wagons and draughts, and choice carriage and saddle horses.
Tuesday, Feb. 14, 11 a. m.—At the Union Horse Exchange, 200 horses, including some grand draughts and especially useful general purpose animals.

Wednesday, Feb. 15, 11 a. m.—At the Union Horse Exchange, 100 horses, all classes, draughts, expressers, drivers and general purpose horses in particular.
Thursday, Feb. 16, 11 a. m.—At Maher's Horse Exchange, 200 horses, including a choice consignment of workers and drivers.

Friday, Feb. 17, 11 a. m.—At the Repository, Simcoe-street, 350 horses, including some choice consignments of heavy draughts and drivers direct from the farms of Ontario, but well trained to work.

Early in March the big annual sale of carriage, saddle, road horses, matinee and track horses (trotters and pacers) will be held by Messrs. Burns & Sheppard at the Repository, Simcoe-street. Entries are now being received.

On March 7, the annual sale of registered Clydesdales will take place at the Union Horse Exchange, Union Stock Yards. Entries are now being received.

The Vienna Trotting Club is said to have distributed \$425,000 in purses and stakes last year. On three tracks in Austria-Hungary the purses aggregated \$750,000.

A New York Paper Aptly Illustrates the Poor Opportunities Canadian Breeders and Shippers Would Have of Selling Horses in U. S.

On another page an extract is given from The New York Herald supposed to be dealing with the reciprocity treaty, but in reality it is an argument against the further importation of stallions from Europe. The Herald apparently being of opinion that the United States already possesses sufficient "foreign truck." It is also an argument that shows how thoroughly selfish our neighbors are in their trade dealings. The Herald says:

Horsemen generally would probably welcome the proposed free trade in live stock between Canada and the United States, but there are many breeders in both countries who would like to see a high tariff on all horses imported from Europe. The practice of admitting free of duty European stallions of recognized breed has, according to the expert opinion, operated against the interests of American breeders to a great extent and has, moreover, tended to prevent substantial improvement in many breeds of horses here.

Here we have the key to the whole situation. In so many words The Sunday World's contemporary says: "Give us the Canadian market and shut out other foreigners and we will be content." If the United States does not want horses of pedigree and true to type from Europe, of a certain type does not require horses of a similar or any other description from Canada. The Herald goes on to say that the imported horse is three times as easy to sell as the native animal. What on earth chance then would a Canadian-bred have, when our stud books are not even recognized at Washington, or at least were not at a very recent date? It does not demand any great stretch of memory to remember the difficulty that was experienced in getting the Canadian stud-books recognized by the authorities of the big St. Louis exposition.

All sorts of minor books of minor breeds in European countries were cheerfully and voluntarily acknowledged, but Canada, oh, Canada was no country at all. To my thinking The Herald puts forward the best argument possible against the adoption of the treaty—at any rate as far as horses are concerned.

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Union Horse Exchange Union Stock Yards TORONTO, ONT.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15th, 1911

In the above lot will be found one CAR OF HEAVY DRAUGHT MARES; also Geldings, General Purpose Horses, Express and Delivery Horses, Carriage Horses and Drivers. In addition we will offer numbers of Second-Hand City Buggies and Scurvily Sound Horses of all classes; Buggies, Cutters, Wagons, Harness, etc., etc.

The Great Annual Auction Sale of IMPORTED AND CANADIAN-BRED

Registered Clydesdales

Stallions, Mares, in foal and Fillies, will be held this year on

Tuesday, March 7th, 1911

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550 HORSES

February 13 Monday At 11 a.m. 350 HORSES
February 16 Thursday At 11 a.m. 200 HORSES

A FINE SELECTION OF ALL CLASSES: Heavy Draught, General Purpose, Express and Delivery Horses, Carriage Cobs, Matched Teams, Saddle and Road Horses, Trotters, Pacers and all classes and sizes of Ponies and Pony Outfits.

We have already received this week large consignments of horses from different parts of the province, and are guaranteed several more full carloads for Monday's sale. We shall have a large variety of classes, an extra lot of High-Class Wagon Horses and Heavy Draughts being promised. As we are continually receiving new shipments of stocks, we have always a number of horses on hand for private sales any day in the week.

AND ON MONDAY AND THURSDAY WE SHALL ALSO SELL a number of Serviceably Sound Workers and Drivers, consigned to us by city people who have no further use for them; also an unlimited quantity of Robes, Blankets, New and Second-Hand Harness, etc., which we shall sell without the slightest reserve.

WE SELL STRICTLY ON COMMISSION

COMMISSION: 5 per cent. ENTRY FEE (if not sold): \$1 per horse.
ALL HORSES sold with a warranty are returnable by noon the day following day of sale, if not as represented.

P. MAHER, Proprietor. GEO. JACKSON, Auctioneer. GEO. FITCH, Asst. Auctioneer.

SOME HARNESS NOTES.

A two-year-old brown gelding by Kentucky Todd, 2.08, dam Alcione Star, by Queenly, sold for \$75 at the Fasig-Tipton midwinter auction in Madison Square Garden recently. At the same sale, C. S. E. by Oro Wilkes—Annie Stevens, by Kentucky Prince, brought \$25 and Hal Brno, 2.17, by Hal B.—Mincola, by Wildbrino, \$450. Wm. Hammall, of this city, bought Rose Stahl, 2.24, by Bingen—Lena Marshall, by The Corker, for \$425.

Great things are expected of Ping Pong, a two-year-old owned by J. B. Sutherland of Calgary, and by Ping Pong (son of Pactolus, 2.12), dam by Fairthorn 15667 (son of Lord Russell); second dam by Esmond, 1828. He has been placed in the hands of Geo. Haas, driver and trainer of General H., 2.04.

Brandon, Man., has chosen May 24-26 for a meeting at which four one thousand dollar stakes will be given, entries for which close March 15.

John E. Madden has posted \$500 on behalf of Soprano, 2.07, to bind a sweepstakes race for \$1000 a corner, open to all trotters excepting Uthian, 1.58, and The Harvester, 2.01, Joan Scott, whose grave at Erie, Pa., was recently rifled by ghouls, was a subscriber to this stake, the year of its inception by the late T. C. Patterson, something like twenty years ago.

three in five, winner to take the entire stake.
Havis James has purchased for R. J. Mackenzie, from J. W. Marshall, Dixon, Cal., the three-year-old colt Madeline, by Demond, 2.11, grand dam Mamie Comet, 2.23 (dam of two).

O. J. C. STAKES.

Entries For Four of the Most Important To Close on March 1.

Four of the stakes of the Ontario Jockey Club are due to close with the secretary, W. P. Fraser, Imperial Bank Buildings, on Wednesday, March 1, namely, the King's Plate, to be run on the opening day of the spring meeting, May 20, the Breeders' Stake, for three-year-old Dominion-breds, to be run in 1912, the Maple Leaf Stakes, for three-year-old Dominion-bred fillies, also to be run in 1912, and the Stanley Produce Stakes, for three-year-old foals of 1911, to be run in 1914. To the King's Plate, besides his Majesty's fifty guineas, \$4000 is to be given by the club to a stake of \$35, only \$5 of which has to be paid at time of entry. To the Breeders' and Maple Leaf Stakes \$1000 is to be added and to the Stanley Produce \$1000, each being the same as in previous years and each requiring a five-dollar entry fee.

Mention of the Stanley Produce is remarkable of the fact that Mr. J. E. Scott, whose grave at Erie, Pa., was recently rifled by ghouls, was a subscriber to this stake, the year of its inception by the late T. C. Patterson, something like twenty years ago.

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