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What were Maritime rights, he asked again as he asked at Kentville on the previous day. "If someone will tell me what a Maritime right is then I will say whether I can defend it. But—he went on—there are some Maritime rights I do know of—and one of those rights is that the people of the Maritimes have the right to as wide a market as they can get. Another right is that as much trade as possible shall pass through their own ports. The whole Liberal policy, as I see it, is a policy that aims at getting for the people of the different parts of the Dominion the rights to which they are entitled."

"He spoke of the Reciprocity agreement of 1911 and asked if the Island would not have been better off with the American market which the agreement provided for their potatoes and fish. "The Reciprocity agreement was defeated," Mr. King charged, "because against the cry of Reciprocity was put the cry of High Protection. The cry of the Tory party was, 'Let us have no truck or trade with the Yankees. Let us put up tariff walls. Don't let us trade. Let us tax ourselves more to protect certain special interests in this country. And they raised the cry of annexation. And let me ask you now, whether or not you think Laurier was

right." Senator Robertson had said that England started with Protection. "Yes," commented Mr. King "England started with Protection but she had sense enough to quit it when she got into the markets of the world."

He accused Mr. Meighen of preaching "blue ruin," and asserted that depression was worse in the United States today than in Canada. In Massachusetts, New York State and Connecticut, there were fewer employed in the textile mills, in comparison, than in Canada. There were more boot and shot factories closed than in Canada. That was not due to any action of the Government. It was due to the situation in which the world found itself, a situation from which it was happily recovering.

On Liberal-Progressive relations, Mr. King observed: "We ought to make our policy big enough in the Liberal party that any real Liberal or Progressive may find his home in it."

The Prime Minister spent Sunday on the Island. He leaves on Monday morning for St. John, N. B.

(Special to The Guardian)

At the Strand Theatre, Dr. Warburton presided. The speakers in order named were Mr. R. H. Jenkins, Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, and Senator Beland. Bouquets were presented to Mr. King by the little daughters of Dr. McGuigan and Mr. Rattenbury.

The Prime Minister expressed his pleasure at the privilege of again addressing an audience in this province. He did not forget that the door by which he entered into office was one of the constituencies of the Island. He appreciated the services of his colleagues in the House who represented the different constituencies of this province, and praised their generous loyalty and whole-hearted support on all occasions when support was needed and in every effort that was made on behalf of principles advocated by the Government.

He congratulated Mr. R. H. Jenkins upon receiving the nomination for Queen's County. His ability and conscientiousness were well known. He has played an important part, Mr. King said, not only in the life of the community, but a part that has been recognized in different parts of the Dominion.

"The Government, which is today appealing for a further expression of your confidence is not doing so because of necessity through any efflux of time. Under the constitution the Government might have continued in office until the month of February, 1927, had the Ministers of the Crown been thinking only of their salaries and position. We might have continued on at least for another session of Parliament and possibly a little beyond. But we have had four years of carrying on Government without any majority. We had a visible majority of one. That visible majority vanished when we

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

Speeches-1922 - 1932

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