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ST. JOHN, N. B. MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1920.

THE TARIFF QUESTION.

A few days ago La Minerve of Montreal enquired who are those in Canada that benefit from the application of a protective tariff? The answer is that in a general way, all the citizens of Canada.

There are not only the manufacturers who are interested in seeing that free-trade of the Crerar-King combination be not applied in this country. There are also the hundreds of thousands of employees—men and women—of Canadian industries; the wholesale dealers the retail dealers and their employees who distribute the products of the Canadian industries; the farmers, who find in Canada a market for eighty per cent. of their products; the railway companies and the navigation companies and their employees, who transport Canadian products; the bankers, the brokers and their employees, who help to finance the Canadian industries; the numerous shareholders of the manufacturing companies, who are in no way manufacturers; the professional men—doctors, lawyers, dentists, manufacturers, professors, insurance brokers, all those who earn their living directly or indirectly in industrial establishments.

Canada has a protective tariff and must continue to have a protective tariff, because the welfare of the nation demands it. The Grain Growers' Protective Union, the Farmers' party, the certain opponents of Mr. King's party should not forget it.

During a period of more than forty years we have enjoyed in Canada a customs' tariff which has made it possible for us to levy the greatest portion of our Federal revenue. We owe our prosperity to protection. Our nearest neighbor is also our keenest competitor in industry, in trade, and in agriculture. Our American neighbor has a population which is between twelve or thirteen times larger than our own. The United States possess unlimited wealth in capital and natural resources. The United States have reached that degree of development as a consequence of the protective system. Still, they have not been able to stop the development of agriculture, of industry and of commerce in Canada, because Canada has taken means to protect itself by the tariff barrier.

Under the regime of protection the agricultural states of the American West have developed in a marvelous manner.

When Protection first came into force in the United States in 1861, the population was 31,000,000 souls; it has reached today more than 100,000,000.

Protection has made the United States what they are today, a rich and prosperous country. And our neighbors, who are very practical, have not the least intention of abandoning that national policy.

Under such circumstances, what would happen if the adversaries of the new National Liberal and Conservative party were successful in imposing on our country their free trade principles. If the Canadian manufacturers had to stand the competition of the American manufacturers—the farmer without protection—the latter without protection—and if they had not, by the help of a protective tariff, the chance of specializing in a broader range, they would be obliged to abandon their enterprises. Who would suffer from this state of things, if not Canada and the Canadian citizens?

By approving the nationalistic views of the Meigs Liberals or the protectionists are certain that they will adhere to a programme of moderate protection.

By following the banner of Mr. King, a Liberal may think he is a protectionist, but it is possible that he may realize too late that he has been drawn into a free trade camp.

THE "BLUE" LAWS.

There has been so much talk about the "blue laws" lately, in connection with the Bowley proposition to tighten up Sunday observance, that some account of what these laws are, is timely. The Boston Transcript says that the "Blue Laws of Connecticut," so called, are a beautiful fake. They were "compiled" partly out of more or less actual enactments of various New England communities and partly out of his own head, by Rev. Samuel A. Peters, a Tory parson at Hartford and Haverhill, Conn., before the Revolutionary war, and published by him, in spite against the colony which had banished him, in England in 1781. According to the fugacious Peters, these "laws" were called Blue because they were printed in New Haven on blue paper; and they were as follows:

The governor and magistrates in general assembly are the supreme power, under God, of the independent Commonwealth. From the determination of

No one shall be a freeman or have a vote unless he is converted and a member of one of the churches allowed in the dominion.

Each freeman shall swear by the blessed God to bear true allegiance to this dominion and that Jesus is the only King.

No dissenter from the essential worship of this dominion shall be allowed to give a vote for electing of magistrates or any officer.

No food or lodging shall be offered to a heretic.

No one shall cross a river on the Sabbath but authorized clergymen.

No one shall travel, cook victuals, make beds, sweep houses, cut hair or shave on the Sabbath day.

No one shall kiss his or her children on the Sabbath or feasting days. The Sabbath Day shall begin at sunset, Saturday.

Whoever wears clothes trimmed with gold, silver or bone lace above one shilling per yard shall be presented by the grand jurors and the selectmen shall tax the estate £300.

Whoever brings card or dice into the dominion shall pay fine of £5.

No one shall eat mince pies, dance, play cards or play any instruments of music except the drum, trumpet or Jewshorn.

No gospel minister shall join people in marriage. The magistrate may join them, as he may do with less scandal to Christ's church.

When parents refuse their children convenient marriages, the magistrate shall determine the point.

A man who strikes his wife shall be fined £10.

A woman who strikes her husband shall be punished as the law directs.

No man shall court a maid in person or by letter without obtaining the consent of her parents: £5 penalty for the first offense, £10 for the second and for the third imprisonment during the pleasure of the court.

A considerable part of these were actually matters of requirement in one place or another of New England, but not more distinctly in Connecticut than elsewhere. As everybody knows, the Sabbath day began on Saturday night in old New England, and the full solemnity of its observance was rigidly enforced. As to mince pies, the manuscript does not believe that Connecticut ever enforced such an ordinance, though it might have been a good thing for the digestion of the present generation if it had. As to the proscription of all musical instruments except the drum, trumpet or Jewshorn, the manuscript can only say that the base viol to his certain knowledge, was played in public worship in New England orthodox churches as long ago as 150 years, how much longer he cannot say.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Sport and Morals.
 The decision of sport in Nassau is not only a matter for regret but, to our mind, for deep concern. While in the Bahamas far less interest has already been taken in sport generally than in the southern West Indian Colonies, where they go in for first class cricket and are able to challenge English teams and, owing to their proximity to each other, are able to organize frequent inter-colonial matches, etc., there was a time when cricket meant something to the young men of this place and a football match aroused more interest than anything else. Unhappily those days are long past and the lack of deeply interesting sports has a deleterious effect on the moral tone of the community.—Nassau Guardian.

If Things Were Reversed.
 The Indians are here, and ought to be as reasonably dealt with as Europeans would wish to be were the positions reversed. The argument that they are dirty and uneducated is no more forcible applied to them than it is to the natives, and at bottom must inevitably continue a reflection on the dominant race. The further argument that the Asiatics have imposed "their dirty and objectionable customs on us" is in the first place not true, and if it were, would be merely an admission of gross weakness on the part of the European populace.—Natal Advertiser.

The Idle Leviathan.
 The Leviathan, now-time Germany's big steamship and one of the property of the United States Government might more appropriately be dubbed the White Elephant. Tied up at a Hoboken dock, nobody wants her as a gift, as she expenses has she been found to navigate. Exception, however, should be claimed for the rats, hordes of them having taken possession, and every means to exterminate them have, so far, proved fruitless. A modern Pied Piper of Hamelin would be gladly hailed by the worried authorities.—Hamilton Spectator.

Hokku.
 "All things were made for me,"
 Said the man,
 "Now, for me," said the earthworm.
 And the man could not reply.
 —From the Japanese of Paing Ure.

"TOBY" TELLS SOME STORIES

Of the stories told by Sir Henry Lucy, the veteran journalist, whose Parliamentary sketches over the non-de-plume of "Toby," M. P., are so widely known, perhaps the most amusing is that of the device invented by Herbert Spencer to escape boredom.

The famous philosopher liked going out to dinner, but hated the inanity of ordinary conversation at table. In order to overcome this difficulty he invented a pair of ear-clips. When he found himself between two grumous persons "whose chattering seared his soul, he adjusted his ear-clips and ate his dinner amid grateful silence."

This story, which is included in the diary kept by Sir Henry Lucy for over thirty years, might be followed with the amusing description of the story of Duke of Argyll, at one time friend and afterwards foe of Gladstone.

His Grace was thus summed up by an Olan inkeeper: "The Duke of Argyll is in a terra desolata position. His pride of intellect will not let him associate with men of his own rank, and his pride of birth will not let him associate with men of his own intellect."

A story which Gladstone was fond of telling is related by a while concerning the bad old electioneering days, when it was the custom for voters to be herded in pens, ten at a time, in readiness to record their votes.

At one election in Liverpool the Liberal party determined to win the start, filled a pen with ten voters as early as 4 a. m., although the poll did not open till ten. Presently a barrel of beer, conveniently tapped, rolled up near the pen and the voters were invited to help themselves with cans.

Excitement fell upon them, man after man withdrew, till the pen was empty, and ten Conservatives waiting in reserve rushed in and took possession.

"The beer," said Mr. Gladstone, laughing till his eyes moistened, "had been heavily lapped!"

"Toby" Irish stories have special interest at the moment. The humor of that witty Irish member, the late Col. Sanderson, was sometimes unconscious. Speaking on the subject of disorder at Irish elections, he said: "They throw stones at Cavan. When I was member for the borough one hit me on the head. I weighed over four pounds. (Chuckles.) Luckily, my head is very thick. So I had it made into a paper-weight. The colonel looked puzzled when the House broke into a roar of laughter."

Another Irish wit was Sir Boyle Roche, a member of the old-time Irish Parliament. "Some ladies went to the Irish House of Commons to hear a popular debate which was postponed. 'Indeed, ladies,' said Sir Boyle, 'I'm very sorry for your disappointment, but why didn't you come to see me?'"

One day Sir Boyle Roche rose to order, "My speaker," he said, "an hon. gentleman who sits behind me is perpetually laughing in my face. I beg to ask him to stop. He is laughing at me again he will be pleased to tell me what he is laughing at."

Labouchere was at one time an attaché to the Embassy at Washington. One day a British visitor bounced in and insisted on seeing the ambassador.

"As he could not be got out of the outer office he was handed on to Labouchere, who told him the Minister was not in. The Briton was not to be put off by subterfuge of that kind."

"Then I will wait till he comes in," he said.

"Very well," said Labouchere. "Pray take a chair. The blundering attaché, his invitation accepted, continued the writing interrupted by the arrival. At the end of an hour the visitor, still fuming, inquired whether the Minister was expected back."

"Oh, certainly," said Labouchere. Another hour passed, the morning paper evidently growing increasingly impatient.

"Do you think he will be back before lunch?" he asked, looking at his watch.

"I think not," said Labouchere, at his sweetest manner. "The fact is he is settled for Europe on Wednesday, and can scarcely yet be expected to return. But you know you said you'd wait till he came back, so I asked you to take a chair."

Do Cabinet Ministers still use secret signs to their correspondents? The question is suggested by Sir Henry's discovery, late in September, 1907, that even the most faithful and prudent secretaries were, at particular stages of important negotiations, not allowed to see letters and documents. "There is accordingly established in the confidence of every Cabinet, a certain Masonic sign which, appearing on the envelope, arrests the hand of the secretary as he is about to open it. Such communications are handed intact to the Minister, to be read and considered in secret."

This story of Bishop Potter is a gem. After preaching in the Adirondacks, in America, this unconventional bishop was eagerly approached by a gaunt backwoodsman. "As usual," he said, "I learned 'emedin' tonight."

"And what was that?" asked the pleased bishop, warmly shaking the horny hand.

"Why, bishop," said the backwoodsman, "I found out for the first time that Sodom and Gomorrah was n't twins."

THE LAUGH LINE

Just So.
 "Economy," we heard a man say the other evening, "is a way of spending money without getting any fun out of it."

Far From the End.
 "What's that grass widow's last name?"
 "Nobody knows. She hasn't come to it yet."

An Expensive Lesson.
 "Now, Thomas," said the teacher severely, "how many times must I tell you not to snap your fingers? Put your hand down and presently I'll

Benny's Note Book

BY LES PAPE

BEING SICK.
 There is 2 kinds of health, good and bad, only people don't notice it till there begins to get bad and then they start to remember how good it was when it was.

People get more pleasure out of telling how bad they feel than when they do out of telling how good they feel, on account of that being the only pleasure there is in it. If you want to hear how good they feel you had to ask them but if you want to hear how bad they feel all you have to do is just listen. The first thing you do when you get a stomachick ache for any reason is to go around bragging about it but when you feel so good you couldn't feel any better if you tried you hardly ever go around saying, O boy maybe I don't feel grate. This proves bad news travels the fastest.

As soon as you begin to feel sick you start to think, G, I wish I was better, but when you feel all right you never think, G, it's a good thing I ain't sick. This proves it's easier to have a bum time than what it is to enjoy yourself.

When a person feels a little sick they just stay that way and hope they won't get worse, and when they get worse they say they're going to go to the doctor if they get worse than that, which they probably would, only by the time they get worse than that the doctor has to come to them.

It sounds worse to say you're sick in bed than what it does to just say you're sick, and if you say you're sick in bed with a nerve it sounds worse.

You don't have to be sick just to get a hold on the back of your neck, being a good thing on account of the boil being bad enough by itself.

A Stayer.

The only reasonable explanation is that Lloyd George is glued to the saddle.—Louisville Post.

hear from you."

Five minutes later she said: "Now, then, Thomas, what was it you wanted to say?"

"There was a man in the entry a while ago," said Thomas, solemnly, "and he went out with your new silk umbrella."

Blatherers.

Some of these people who write about Russia should be able to produce excellent articles concerning home life on Mars.—Albany Times Union.

Stand By Your Own.

Be loyal to your local merchants. They compete successfully in every respect with those outside, whose alleged bargains are usually found to be a case of "far fields are fair."—Hamilton Spectator.

Modern Life.

"Do you help your wife with the dishes?"
 "No."

"There isn't room for both of us in the kitchenette."

Sale of Hardwood.

One drawback to the more extensive use of hardwood for fuel has been the method of marketing. Prices are quoted per load, and a load may consist of any quantity, depending on the dealer. Naturally the public are reluctant to purchase an unknown quantity. The experience of one consumer with what is known as "mill-wood" emphasizes this point. The dealer refused to sell by the cord, but quoted it at \$3 per load. Measurement of the load disclosed the fact that \$3 per load was equivalent to \$28 per cord. On the basis of heat value, this was equivalent to \$4 per ton of anthracite. This class of wood was later sold by the municipality at \$7.50 per cord, and hardwood (one cord equal to one ton of anthracite) at \$13.50. One Canadian city has standardized the size of wood delivery wagon boxes. A bylaw provides that the capacity of a "double load" must be 168 cubic feet, which is considered to be equal to one cord of wood as ordinarily thrown in. The box for a "single load" must have a capacity of 84 cubic feet. The bylaw also requires that the driver of the wood delivery wagon shall before unloading invite inspection of the load quantity by the purchaser or his representative.

The regulation might well be adopted by all municipalities; it would undoubtedly enlarge the market for wood fuel, as the consumer would no longer be compelled to purchase a load without knowing what quantity he was getting.—Conservation.

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COL. COLE IS DEAD

New York, Dec. 26.—Col. William Ashley Cole, former chairman of the New York State Railway Commission and at one time city editor of the New York Herald, is dead at West Pittston, Pa., according to information received here.

Col. Cole born in England, in 1841, moved to Canada in 1861 and came to New York City in 1860. He served throughout the civil war.

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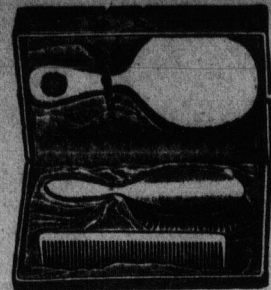
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