

Though we have been told by politicians that there will be no interferences with the Coal Tariff in any treaty, the following from the New York Herald, Ottawa Correspondent, asks to be well informed, tells a different story:

Canada's attitude in the reciprocity negotiations which will begin about October 15 can be generally outlined. The policy of the Laurier government will not permit a treaty to go far beyond natural products. Although free trade in principle, the Liberal party has reared a protective tariff wall and will not expose the interests thereby sheltered to the competition of great industries in the United States.

For domestic political reasons in the West the treaty will do the Laurier government little good unless it contains a provision for lower duties on American agricultural machinery. It can be stated that the most important agricultural machinery manufacturing interests in Canada are in favor of reciprocal free trade in farm implements if repair parts as well as entire machines are free listed.

The government states that parts of Canadian machines sent into the United States are assessed at forty-five per cent., although harvesters and threshers and other whole machines bear only fifteen. Representatives of the International Harvester Company of America were greatly surprised when told of this. It appears that there may be a misunderstanding on this point which the Treasury Department could clear up.

It is expected that the negotiators will ask reduction of Canadian duties on a considerable number of American manufactures in return for concessions on Canadian natural products. Domestic conditions will not permit much progress in this direction. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association is vigorously opposing reciprocity. Some manufacturers, however, would like reciprocity either because they think they could make progress in the larger market offered by ninety millions of buyers, or because they hope to get at better tariff rates the semi-raw materials required in manufacture of their products. The Canadian steel industry, now undergoing a period of merging and stock expansion is already crying for greater protection.

In natural products the position of the Dominion government will be practically that of the Canadian Tariff Act of 1879, which provided for free entry of animals of all kinds, vegetables, plants, trees and shrubs, coal and coke, hop, peas, beans, barley, rye, oats, Indian corn, buckwheat and all other grain, butter, cheese, fish, lard, tallow, meats and

lumber, when similar articles were allowed free entry into the United States.

Ontario will welcome a reduction of American duty on coal. Nova Scotia dreads it. Formerly Nova Scotia was keen for reciprocity in coal. The little province's coal has captured the big Montreal market. Massachusetts has enacted a smoke law which prohibits the use of high volatile coal in Massachusetts cities. Nova Scotia coal will be barred from a market there even if the tariff is lowered, say the Bluenose miners.

Under the title "Are Trade Unions Doomed?" Mr. Philip Snowden, M. P., has an outspoken article on the labor crisis in the current number of the "Christian Commonwealth." He expresses the belief that the position is so serious that unless wisdom can prevail, and unity be restored, the trade unions of this country, which have been built up by enormous effort and sacrifice, and have done incalculable good to the community at large are going to be disintegrated and destroyed, and with that destruction the workers will lose the means which have afforded them the largest measure of protection in the past, and which hold the promise, if rightly used, of far greater usefulness in the future. Mr. Snowden says that the lockout in the shipbuilding industry has brought to the point of decision one way or another a question which has been growing more and more urgent for some years. The defiance of discipline by a section of the members of a union, which is responsible for the lockout, is not a feature of recent development in trade unionism and confined to the boilermakers. "The whole case," he goes on, "is confined to the fact that a number of the members of a trade union, bound by the first principle of unionism to be loyal to their comrades, have deliberately broken an agreement, defied their responsible officers have broken faith with the other trade unions who are parties to the agreement, and have set up their own judgment in defiance of everybody and everything.

If this sort of conduct is to be tolerated, if a pledged word is to be lightly broken whenever it suits the whim to do so, if a handful of men are to be free to bring a great industry to a standstill at their own impulse, to inflict untold privation upon tens of thousands of honest people, and to all this in the name of democracy, then democracy becomes an intolerable instrument of tyranny, and ordered government must give way to anarchy and chaos. The consequences of irresponsible conduct by members of a trade union under modern industrial conditions are so serious and so far-reaching that it becomes an unardonable act of treachery to the organization for a small section to assume authority which is not their own, and one which they are expressly forbidden to exercise by the rules of their own organization. Trade unions, Mr.

Snowden continues, "have been the most perfect examples of democratic organization yet evolved. We have looked to them to develop into democratic political state. If they fail then the outlook for the workers in this country is black indeed. There will be no political democracy, either Socialists or other, which is founded on the democratic trade union. This is not a time for weakening its position by internal conflict. The attacks from outside are increasing in number and in strength. If such conduct as led to the present lockout in the shipbuilding trade and is threatening other industries is not stopped by the wisdom and judgment of the overwhelming majority of the members of the unions, then trade unionism will speedily lose the greatest asset it has, namely, the good opinion and sympathy of the community at large."

The question is frequently asked as to the possibility of using tidal energy. It is, however, not seriously realized how much water is required to obtain one horse power when the fall amounts to only a few feet. With a tidal rise and fall of ten feet we should require a flow of nearly two tons of water per minute to generate one horse power, with a good modern turbine, even supposing that the full head could be realized. As a matter of fact, the average head would be only five feet, and hence the quantity of water would have to be proportionately increased. The storage of such large quantities of water would, except in peculiarly favorable circumstances be altogether excessive, and, in any case, a turbine working at such low and variable heads would be both costly and inefficient. The only place where the tidal flow reaches anything like the necessary height to make the scheme commercially practicable is in the Bay of Fundy, and there is the possibility that this particular locality may be considered for a power scheme in the future.

Those who know Mr. Dick, of the Dominion Coal Co., know that the thing next to his heart after selling coal is a good joke. The following reference to Mr. Dick in the Amherst News is deliciously put, but we are inclined to think it is largely poetical. Mr. Cowans and Mr. Dick know each other thoroughly, and if the former really handed over his St. John interests to the keeping of "Sandy" he surely knew what would almost certainly follow. If Mr. Cowans says its true, and Mr. Dick follows suit, we will begin to believe it:

"The Co. succeeded in getting the mine in running shape again on Monday, giving a surprise to many who were predicting that the fall would not be cleared away inside of two weeks. Some coal was brought up on Monday, and by Wednesday the Co. were able to reach their normal output again. It was rumored for a day or two that the Co. intended