

UNWORTHY TACTICS.

An article from the Ottawa Journal, a politically independent newspaper, printed in this issue of the Times, exposes the Tory plan of campaign and explains why the leader of the party in Quebec was not brought West on an educational tour with the other chief men. Mr. Monk's education is complete. He has been assigned the duty of stirring up Quebec against Laurier on the ground that the Liberal leader is an Imperialist, a pro-Briton, and has been false to French-Canadian ideals. The words of Sir Charles Tupper, "Laurier is too British for me," are to be taken as the war-cry during the campaign which has already begun, and will only end with the next Dominion general election. It would have been very impolitic to have brought Monk West into the midst of communitarianism in order that a home market may be speedily created for the products of the soil. Mr. Borden has not displayed a great deal of wisdom in his selection of a policy, but he was not bold enough to promise that his ideal mode of conducting a government would bring into Canada a sufficient population to consume the entire yield of a country which is capable of feeding it, is estimated, a nation equal in numbers to Great Britain and the United States combined when all the land is under cultivation. Under no circumstances, therefore, would it be possible to grant the agriculturists of the Northwest protection in their business, and it is not unreasonable that they should object to an increase in a tariff which not only cannot be of benefit to them, but which the higher it is raised the more burdensome it will become. Of course it is claimed that internal competition under a high tariff would accomplish that which external competition does under a low tariff or under free trade in regulating prices. The most effective reply to that argument is that internal competition has not, as experience proves, done any vast amount of regulating. The merchants of the West who purchase manufactured goods in the East know that the prices of their commodities are nicely adjusted to harmonize with the rates charged for the same class of goods on the other side of the line, with the duty and freight added. If the duties were increased, it is tolerably certain the prices would be correspondingly increased. Manufacturers are human, with the weaknesses of humanity, and one of the besetting sins of humanity is covetousness. We all want all we can get of the lucre that all the world is grasping after, and there is not one that would not take advantage of any opportunity to add to his stores. If the manufacturers did not think they beheld possible advantages for themselves in an increase of the tariff they would not be found in alliance with the Conservative party in this agitation. The Conservative leader has promised in a vague sort of way that he would confer "adequate protection" on the lead mining industry of British Columbia. One would naturally have expected him to have the support of the Manufacturers' Association in this programme, indefinite though it appeared. Instead the trait to which we have referred as being prominent in the Association manifested itself in a disagreeable way, according to the Halifax Chronicle and the Hamilton Times. The latter paper says: "The Nelson Board of Trade's representative went before the organized manufacturers assembled in Halifax and stated his case. He was received with small enthusiasm and could make no headway. At a later date he discovered and revealed to others the cause. Some of the most powerful and prominent of the 'protectionists' in the Association use lead in the manufacture of their products. Lead, therefore, is not in need of 'protection'; only the goods partly made from lead by these manufacturers call for tariff 'protection'."

published by allowing them to purchase the articles they require for their personal use and for the conduct of their business as cheaply as possible. We take it, therefore, that the tour of Mr. Borden has been a failure. Like their predecessors, the present Conservative leaders have failed to understand the sentiments of French-Canadians. They assumed in 1896 that there was antagonism to Britain latent in the bosom of the habitant. Either that assumption was false or the appeals of the party failed to rouse the spirit into activity. We believe the assumption was false and that the men who would profit by playing upon prejudices patriots would allow to die out will find themselves in no better position in the next appeal to the electorate. The campaign will fail at both ends and in the centre.

A GREAT COMBINATION.

There is one important movement in the direction of unity and co-operation which Canadians can afford to regard with equanimity. That is a union of the forces which have for their object the uplifting of humanity through the direction of thought into clean and healthful channels and the inculcation of the inflexible principles of truth and honor. Whatever opinions one may hold in regard to the creeds and dogmas of the churches—declarations of principles which are said to be ignored to a large extent now in the workings of all denominations—there can be no two opinions about the part the churches have played in the elevation of humanity—in the raising of human life to the level it has attained to-day. It is as true now as it ever has been that the most unselfish spirits are found in the ranks of the teachers and instructors of youth and adult in Sunday school and church. If the people who desire to understand our meaning will shut themselves up for a few beautiful Sundays within the walls of some building instead of proceeding upon their usual jaunts of pleasure they will comprehend the nature of the sacrifices which so many men and women make weekly. Of course the teachers have their reward in an approving conscience, which may be to them a greater pleasure than the enjoyment of the exhilarating atmosphere to one of less strict views.

If the churches can agree upon a plan for the conservation of their energies in their great work, therefore, mankind should rejoice, for it will be the gain. Speaking upon the question of inter-denominational unity in his church in Toronto last Sunday, Rev. Dr. Cleaver, well known and deservedly popular in Victoria, said he noted with pleasure the harmony which prevailed between the Methodist and Presbyterian denominations, and he called attention to the remarkable similarity which existed between these two great bodies, both in matters of church polity and doctrine. In the point of church government the Presbyterians had their "Session," the Methodists their "Quarterly Board," the Presbyterians had their "General Assembly," meeting every year, the Methodists their "General Conference," meeting every four years—the difference being in time of meeting only. The most important difference was perhaps in the itinerancy system of the Methodist church and the permanent pastorate of the Presbyterian; but even this he did not regard as insurmountable, and pointed out that changes on the other side of the line were already breaking down this difference. As regards the differences of doctrine, Mr. Cleaver thought these were perhaps more theoretical than practical. It might be better if the church did not supply any dogmas of its own. He pointed out the energy and usefulness which would be conserved and increased by unity, and declared they ought to be united. He expressed the hope that the feeling of unity now prevalent would continue to extend.

A "BUSINESS" PARTNERSHIP.

The Colonist wants to know what on earth the ideas of the Manufacturers' Association have to do with the policy of the Conservative party. Although our contemporary poses as an expert, not to say a scientific, expounder of the doctrine of protection, we are really afraid it cannot be familiar with the history of what it, probably in derision, calls the vital principle, or it would not ask such a question. When the Conservative party was in power the manufacturers gathered at Ottawa, drew up the tariff schedules, and presented them to the Minister of Finance. Does our contemporary require proof of the power of the masters of the party to enforce their demands? Does it remember a time when there was a general conviction that the National Policy had not proved so stimulative in its effects as its advocates predicted it would prove? It had had a fair trial and the progress of the Dominion was woefully disappointing to all the people. A banquet was given by the Toronto Board of Trade, at which some prominent politicians of both parties spoke. Sir John Thompson was then Prime Minister and Mr. Laurier leader of the opposition. That was a historic occasion. The Premier made a memorable speech; the leader of the opposition had not an opportunity to say much, because there was an organized Tory attempt to monopolize all the time in laudation of the N. P. What Mr. Laurier said, was that when the Liberals came into power it would not be necessary for a Finance

TAXATION REDUCED.

Conservative papers are publishing figures to prove that the present tariff is higher than that in force previous to 1896. We do not know what their object can be unless it is to add to their own confusion, and goodness knows they are in a sufficiently muddled state at present. If it be true that the duties are higher than under a system which was perfection, why are the manufacturers clamoring for more protection; why does Mr. Borden say he would raise the tariff yet a little higher? Does not that prove that the experience of Canada under protection would be exactly that of the United States; that in a matter how high the altitude of the wall, there will be a demand that it be raised higher? It is notable that in all the "figurings" of the organs of the party, they ignore the British preference. That does not enter into their calculations, at all, although it must necessarily be a factor in the situation. We also notice that some of the more reckless of the party organs claim that more money is being taken out of the pockets of the people in the form of taxation than previous to 1896. If that be the case, it is perfectly apparent that the people do not feel the increased burden very seriously. But it is, not the case. More than that, the money paid into the treasury under the N. P. does not represent the full amount paid by the consumers in taxes. In the sugar industry alone, giving to the adjustment of the duties on the raw and the refined article, the treasury was robbed and the people plundered. The sugar business was specially pampered by Mr. Foster, and no doubt he and his party had their reward. The Toronto Globe points out that the assertion that the tariff of 1897 represented a general increase of the tariff is entirely wrong. It is contradicted by the declarations of the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, and the Minister of Customs. The matter can be easily tested. The imports have increased 80 per cent. in six years, and the revenue from taxation 60 per cent. The rate in 1896 was more than 19 per cent. on imports entered for consumption. This rate applied to the imports for consumption in 1902 would have yielded \$38,500,000, or \$6,000,000 more than was actually collected. The rate of duty on last year's imports entered for consumption was 16 per cent., as against 19.1 in 1896.

EFFECTS OF YELLOW TERROR.

A Halifax, N. S., boy of tender years, but whose disposition is sadly out of harmony with his age, has been sentenced to death for the brutal murder of a comrade. The youthful murderer is a degenerate product of the times. He was educated down below the level of the lower animals by the free press of this enlightened age. He was a diligent student of dime novels. He emulated the heroes of the dark pages too literally. If he had been a properly brought-up youth he would have been an other-boy who has devoured the same "literary" food without attempting to assimilate it. If his education had proceeded along the lines laid down by the state he would have been able to discriminate between true and false teaching. If he attended the public schools of the province the good seed sown was choked by the tares implanted by the school of the yellow terror. The boy organized a "gang," of which he became the leader. It was no make-believe organization, but a robbing, marauding, mischief-making band. The juvenile robbers proceeded by regular stages from petty pilfering to robberies upon a large scale. In order that everything might be in accordance with the standard from which they drew their inspiration, they had caves in which to meet and secrete their spoils, one of the places having a reputation of being "haunted." On occasions when special ceremonies were in order, the rendezvous was in an old burying ground in which the loyalists who gave up all they possessed in order to live and die under the British flag now sleep. Here high revelry was held on candy pilfered from a shop, the key of which was one of the prized possessions of the kidnappers. The scene in court fails description. The crowd in the room with the red-faced boy. His mother was there, and as he passed her she had only time to say: "Freddy, boy, be good; be a good boy and tell the truth." The boy took his seat, and his head was only up to the desk. The crowd was breathless. The coroner asked him if he knew the nature of an oath, and his age. He had replied: "I was fourteen the 15th of April, and I know what an oath is. It means that you must tell the truth, so help you God." Then in a clear, calm voice, without the slightest sign of a tremor in his voice, he told the story of the horrible murder of William Doherty by Frank Higgins on Friday afternoon, August 1st. He minutely described his actions, the part that he and his comrade Higgins and Doherty, with two other boys, in the old burying ground, and then going out to the park at the invitation of Higgins to get a "feed of berries." He described passing through the park, until they reached a lonely place outside of the boundary. He told how he and Doherty were a short distance ahead, and just as they were ascending a little hill, Higgins fired four shots from a revolver into Doherty, how the victim shouted "My God, Higsey, you've shot me." That Doherty ran up the hill, and Higgins chased him, and tried to hit him with the revolver. That Higgins snatched the revolver out of Higgins' hand and tried to hit back. Then Doherty sank down on his back and said: "Go away and get a doctor. So help me God, I'll swear it is an accident." Next Goodspeed described how Higgins hit Doherty five times with the butt of the revolver, how he was lying on his side with his elbow on the ground. With his hand to his head Doherty moved once and fell back dead. Goodspeed told how Higgins pointed a revolver at his side, and threatened him right there if he did not take a hand in it. He also told how Higgins had thrown some stones on the unfortunate lad's body. This story was told in a manner evidently as if the boy was reciting a lesson at school, and with as much indifference he told how Higgins threw the revolver in the creek, and how he and his comrade were returning to the park shortly after noon, and Higgins went to the place where the body was buried, and came back and told Goodspeed it was still there.

FROM BEHRING SEA.

The First of Sealing Fleet Home From That Hunting Ground. Somewhat discouraging news has been received from Behring Sea through the return of the first of the sealing fleet, the Ocar and Hattie, which arrived last night. The schooner, towed in during the night, behind her own boats, and did not come to anchor until 1 o'clock this morning. She is reported to have secured a total of 1,000 seals during the year. She left Victoria in December, cruised down the coast, and during this time it was impossible to lower a boat. In the last 15 days spent in the sea the boats were lowered but four times. Only three of the sealing fleet were sighted—the Victoria on the 20th of August with a catch of 100 skins; the Zillah May on the day previous to this, and the Favorite on the 23rd of September with 100 skins. Each schooner had the same story of bad weather to relate, but before this "have doubtless added considerably to their skins. 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