

The Standard

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SAINT JOHN, THURSDAY MORNING, SEPT. 7, 1911.

THE ANNEXATION REALITY.

Liberal orators and Liberal newspapers are most anxious that the danger of annexation to the United States should form no part as a discussion of the Reciprocity question. They would endeavor to convince the people of Canada that annexation is a mere "bogey" and has no foundation in fact. In opposition to these Liberal utterances we have the statements of President Taft and the admissions of a hundred American newspapers that the principal object of the United States is in endeavoring to secure reciprocal trade with Canada is that such an arrangement would inevitably lead to a political as well as a commercial union.

Edward Blake, once the leader of the Liberal party in the Parliament of Canada, addressing the electors of West Durham, gave as one of his reasons for declining to be a candidate in the United States Reciprocity, that such a policy MUST LEAD TO POLITICAL UNION. No public man in the United States or American newspaper has discussed the question of Reciprocity from any other standpoint. They all say and all believe that political union will surely follow the adoption of any form of commercial Reciprocity. The present measure is accepted by the Americans, not as the fulfillment of their wishes, but as the entering wedge in the attainment of their hopes for political union.

One of the gentlemen with whom Sir Wilfrid Laurier was associated in his Unrestricted Reciprocity campaign of 1891, was the Pittsburg iron master, Mr. Andrew Carnegie, and these are the views expressed by that gentleman in a letter written some time ago:

"Although I am opposed to taxing the food and the necessities of the people, I should make an exception 'in regard to the products of Canada, and this without regard to the doctrines of either free-trade or protection, but as a matter of high politics."

"I think we betray a lack of statesmanship in allowing commercial advantages to a country which owes allegiance to a foreign power founded upon monarchic institutions which may always be trusted at heart to detect the Republican idea. IF CANADA WERE FREE AND INDEPENDENT AND THREW IN HER LOT WITH THIS CONTINENT IT WOULD BE A DIFFERENT MATTER. So long as she remains upon our flank a possible foe, not upon her account, but subject to the orders of a European Power, and ready to be called by that Power to exert her forces against us, as even upon issues that may not concern Canada, I should let her distinctly understand that we view her as a menace to the peace and security of our country, and I should treat her accordingly."

"She should not be in the Union and out of the Union at the same time, if I could prevent it. Therefore, I should tax highly all her products entering the United States, and this I should do, not in dislike for Canada, but for love of her, in the hope that it would cause her to realize that the nations upon this continent are expected to be American nations, and I should let her distinctly understand that we view her as a menace to the peace and security of our country, and I should treat her accordingly."

"Surely no Canadian with an atom of loyalty for his country would accept Mr. Carnegie's method of bringing about a union between Canada and the United States, but, if he has followed the history of United States legislation respecting Canada, he would see that the methods of Congress are those of Mr. Carnegie. As a matter of fact Mr. Carnegie expresses the views of nine-tenths of the American people on this particular question. THEY NOT ONLY WANT OUR NATIONAL RESOURCES, BUT THEY WOULD DESTROY OUR NATIONALITY AS WELL."

In such a situation it is the plain duty of the electors of this country to send men to parliament who will tell the people of the United States that they refuse to become their vassals and have determined to develop their own country in their own way without the interference or advice of either President Taft or the Laird of Skibo. CANADA FOR THE CANADIANS IS THE ONLY TRUE POLICY FOR THIS COUNTRY, AND ANY DEPARTURE FROM IT WILL LEAD TO DISASTER."

MR. PUGSEY'S OPTIMISM.

Mr. Pugsley has returned from Ottawa with the information that the Liberal party will be again returned to power. His opinion is not shared by some of his colleagues but our own William was always an optimist though things have not always turned out as he expected. There is the Central Railway for instance. On many occasions Mr. Pugsley told the House of Assembly what a magnificent investment this railway was for the Province and the great things it was going to do for the development of the Queen's Country coal areas.

About the only thing that has developed so far has been one of the most sordid scandals ever known in the political history of New Brunswick. Several reputations have been considerably smirched through connection with this deal, so disastrous to the Province, Mr. Pugsley's among the number.

Three years ago Mr. Pugsley while in an optimistic frame of mind, told the people of St. John that the dredging of Courtenay Bay and the erection of great terminal facilities at that place were to commence immediately, but up to the present time not a spoonful of mud has been disturbed in Courtenay Bay and none is likely to be for some time to come.

The Standard does not know where Mr. Pugsley obtained his information regarding the result of the forthcoming election, but wherever he got it, it is directly contrary to what is the general opinion from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The signs of the times are that the Liberal party will be overturned. They had hoped to make Reciprocity the cloak for their many acts of misgovernment during their fourteen years of power, but they have found the garment a most uncomfortable one.

The loyal people of Canada have discovered in its folds an effort on the part of the United States, not only to secure control of their trade, but finally to annex the country and make it a part of the United States.

As a result of the policy of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, there has been a genuine political upheaval throughout Canada. Men who have hitherto refrained from taking any active interest in the politics of the country, have come out openly in opposition to Sir Wilfrid's Reciprocity Agreement. Hundreds of men who have been Liberals all their lives have come out to oppose the Reciprocity Pact. In addition to those Liberals who are openly opposing Sir Wilfrid and his colleagues in their effort to hand over the control of the trade of this country to the United States, there are hundreds of others who have as yet given no sign, but will so to the polls and vote against Canada into bondage. The silent vote of St. John which has wrecked the hopes of more than one politician, is opposed to Reciprocity, and will count against the Liberal candidates on September 21st.

The demonstration which attended the visit of Mr. Borden to St. John is an indication of how the people feel on this question. Among those who listened to the Conservative leader's speech and cheered his utterances to the echo were many who have been in close affiliation with the Liberal party for many years, but they have declined to endorse the former leaders into the maze of Reciprocity because they believe that the offer of the United States is a delusive one and instead of doing good to Canada, will cause her mortal injury.

Mr. Pugsley must have noticed that many faces he had grown familiar with in elections of the past were absent from his gathering last night, and that a much smaller hall than the Queen's Rink would have held all of the electors of St. John who wished to hear himself and his colleague, Mr. Lowell, discuss the questions of the day. His small audience last night may render Mr. Pugsley less optimistic tomorrow than he was yesterday.

ATTACKING SIR WILLIAM VAN HORNE.

The organs of Mr. Pugsley have been making vicious attacks on Sir William Van Horne because that gentleman had the hardihood to address a public meeting at St. Andrews against Reciprocity. Sir William may have come from the United States to Canada and have prospered financially during his residence here, but this does not alter the fact that he has done much more for his adopted country than hundreds, nay, thousands of men who were born within the Dominion. The Canadian Pacific Railway is a monument to the courage, the enterprise, the energy and the business capacity of Sir William Van Horne and his associates.

The fling that the Times made at Sir William because of his connection with the Grand Falls water-power is unjustifiable. No man is in a better position to explain why Sir William, and those working with him, did not carry out their plans regarding this proposition, than Mr. Pugsley. Both of these enterprising newspapers have recently displayed remarkable zeal in obtaining interviews from Mr. Pugsley on many questions. They might succeed now in obtaining from him the complete story of the different arrangements made for the development of Grand Falls. The truth would be very interesting, particularly if the names of all those who are connected with the various schemes for the utilization of this great water power were made public.

What troubles the Telegraph and Times is that Sir William Van Horne's reasons for opposing Reciprocity are unanswerable. He has hit the nail squarely on the head and exposed anew the "velled treason" of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his supporters. The reasons given by Sir William Van Horne for his opposition to the Reciprocity Pact are commercially sound and thoroughly approved by every one who has a stake in the country—manufacturer, workman and farmer alike. Sir William has pointed out that instead of being benefited by Reciprocity, the country will be destroyed by interest in the country and that it will unsettle trade by changing the policy under which Canada has made such magnificent progress during the last twenty years.

The amusing feature of the attack on Sir William Van Horne is that he is charged with self-interest in taking the stand he does on Reciprocity. Considering that the two newspapers which have chosen to make this assertion are owned by two gentlemen who for the last three years have been deriving large incomes from government dredging contracts in the harbor of St. John and whose self-interest in the maintenance of the Laurier administration in power is greater than that of any two other persons in this or in any other province, the force of the charge against Sir William is materially weakened.

Messrs. McAvity and Moore, who reside in a very large glass house, are in no position to charge anyone with self-interest. They are reaping a very fat reward for their devotion to the Liberal cause, and don't want to jeopardize their profits. They have found that backing Mr. Pugsley in his schemes has paid them remarkably well. Their time, however, is getting short. In another fortnight both they and Mr. Pugsley are due to discover that their interpretation of the motto "No Graft," "No deals," so blatantly displayed day after day by their organs, differs widely from that entertained by every honest voter in this constituency.

Half page advertisements in various newspapers with editorial and local notices failed to draw an audience big enough to fill the Queen's Rink last night to hear the Liberal leader's speech. As the Times put it, there was a strong contrast between the attendance at Mr. Borden's meeting on Tuesday night and that held by Messrs. Pugsley and Lowell last night, notwithstanding that the Liberals' stellar attraction, Dr. Silas Alward, was announced as one of the speakers.

In 1908 the Liberal party was well organized in every ward in this constituency, but even when well organized and fully provided with the "resources of civilization," Mr. Pender was defeated. In the present election there are most interesting internal squabbles in three wards, which prevent anything like harmonious work, and with a much weaker candidate than Mr. Pender in the person of Mr. Lowell, as the colleague of Mr. Pugsley, it is little wonder that the rank and file of the party is anything but hopeful as to the outcome of the election from a Liberal standpoint. By the way, Mr. Pender's name has not appeared very often in this campaign. Is there a reason?

Current Comment

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

Mr. George H. Perley, Conservative candidate for Argenteuil, is one of the most high-minded men in public life. Mr. Sydney Fisher has expressed surprise at Mr. Perley's opposing the pact, which would materially benefit Mr. Perley's interests as a lumberman. The Minister of Agriculture will find that there is a great force of patriotism in Canada, and that there are hosts of Canadians who prefer country to private gain obtained at the sacrifice of national honor.

(Philadelphia Press.)

We are getting the information from Paris, right along now, that the corset is going to be abandoned the coming season. Every few years something of this kind is given out, but it doesn't appear to affect the corset. Paris can do almost anything with the fashion, but it has never yet been able to put the corset out of business.

SOMETHING FOR VOTERS TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER

Can Mr. Pugsley or the Dredgers' Organs Prove that Conditions Here Described Will Not be Effective After Reciprocity Hands Canada Over to the Yankee Trusts?

To the Editor of The Standard.

Sir—In order to talk with my friends in Queens County, I seek permission to trespass upon your valuable space—just now I imagine crowded with matters of grave importance. Six years ago Avenue A and 34th Street, New York City I was assaulted and practically beaten to death by New York gangsters acting as hirelings (as the gangsters always act) for some one interested in my demise. Since that time I have been battling against ill health. During the present summer I have been for two months in a hospital conducted by one of the most skillful surgeons in the U. S., who assures me of the complete restoration of my health.

For five years engaged in rescue mission work I have lived in intimate association with the working people and the poor of this country. I have heard the voice of their suffering. I have witnessed the temptations greater than human flesh could stand, that have debased and destroyed the soul of the struggling toiler. I have stood in the morgue, N. Y. City, and listened to the heart breaking lamentations of a mother weeping over the dead body of a daughter who sought through the suicide's gateway to escape the life of shame into which she had been forced by the trade conditions of this country.

I have visited the tenement homes of the workman in N. Y. City and seen the dying child, the victim of tuberculosis induced by the intolerable conditions in this country. From the doorway of the Bowery mission at 1 o'clock of a winter's night I have watched the long line of gaunt, wretched, starving workmen shivering in their rags that scarce conceal their nakedness, waiting their turn to get a loaf of bread and a cup of coffee, and I have rung up the police ambulance to carry away the dead bodies of self-respecting workmen who found charity a little harder to bear than death by starvation.

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The students wishing process will invariably point to his master. WHEN I READ OF SOUVENIR DISTRIBUTION, OF FREE PICTURES AND EXCURSIONS, ETC., I could almost imagine that "Bowers Tim," the champion of the white slave, had left his habitat in New York City and was campaigning in the land of the Loyalists, jollying, deceit, bribery, and trickery, the time-honored political methods of the Trust. There is a yet more sinister side to this reciprocity measure, to which I may refer at a later date. I feel that I am already occupying too much space. But I would have the reader bear in mind THAT THE IMMEDIATE ISSUE IS A FREE MARKET VS. RECIPROCITY AND A TRUST CONTROLLED MARKET, AND EVENTUALLY THE ABSORPTION OF CANADA BY THE UNITED STATES.

Carefully, subtly, the publicity agents of the trusts are working that idea up in the United States, not in the large papers that may reach Canada, but in the small country weeklies. It is a modern maxim, that dominion follows trade, and Trusts rely upon this being so in this case as they feel that their operations would be somewhat hampered so long as the British flag waves over them.

A Direct Insult.

I quote from a letter written to a man in Oklahoma by the Alberta representative of an American agricultural implement company: "YOU SHOULD COME UP HERE. WE WILL SOON HAVE OLD GLORY WAVING OVER THIS COUNTRY. RECIPROCITY IS THE FIRST STEP, IF WE DON'T GET RECIPROCITY WE CAN'T TAKE ALBERTA, SASKATCHEWAN AND MANITOBA OUT OF THE CONFEDERATION. AMERICAN GINGER AND LONG GREEN (MEANING MONEY) CAN DO THE TRICK."

In 1781 our ancestors left comfortable homes and braved hardships of a life in the wilderness rather than sacrifice their allegiance to the British Empire.

Then will begin the long slow grinding process by which THE TRUSTS WILL GET CONTROL OF THE FARMS AND REDUCE THE INDEPENDENT FARMER TO THE POSITION OF THE WAGE SLAVE.

In 1911 shall we, their descendants, throw away the independence made sacred by their blood and suffering? In 1812 they sought to take our country by force.

"All Laundry's Lane, Chataqua and Chrysler's Farm from the blazing

muskets of Quebec families and Ontario volunteers they received their answer. Will the red blooded Canadian manhood of the present day give a different reply?

Politicians in this country fondly dream of a coming day when from the pole to the isthmus, and from eastern to the western ocean, the stars and stripes will be the only national banner. Such a consummation with the present American system of government which is admittedly a hundred years behind the age would be a disaster not only to Canada but to the world and our present civilization and worst of all to the working people of the United States, already trying for relief from trust inflicted burdens.

Mr. Mc is another and a different vision. I see our Imperial Federation overruling in its might, working out the problems of our present day civilization through the instrumentalities of government more orderly and democratic than anything known to the world and our present civilization. In such a consummation there is no greater obstacle to be overcome than those successfully surmounted by John Macdonald when he inaugurated the Canadian Federation.

The right to a form of popular government that the leading American publicists consider a model in all that makes for the expression of popular will. The two people working together in Europe are maintaining the peace of the world. In the spirit of an Anglo-French Imperial Federation, I see the dawning of a new civilization in which poverty will no longer exist, where the laborer will receive the full product of his toil and the abolition of the law of the expression of the people's untrammelled will, shall be the very incarnation of the teachings of the Man of Galilee.

A VOTE FOR RECIPROCITY IS A VOTE FOR THE DOMINATION OF THE TRUSTS AND THE VICE AND MISERY INSEPARABLY ASSOCIATED WITH THEIR EXISTENCE. It is a vote to elevate shame and dishonesty over decency and virtue in public legislation. It is a vote to enslave Canadian manhood and to make possible and easy the degradation of Canadian womanhood. It is a vote to check the wheels of civic progress on the American continent until a desperate and outraged people, raised in their might and re-enact the scenes with France in the days of the first revolution. You can read the American magazines to know that the serious minded student of affairs sees the possibility and imminence of such an occurrence. Let the defeat of reciprocity in Canada assist the suborned workmen in the U. S. in curbing the trusts and so prevent a revolution that if once started, may end in the destruction of our present civilization.

Thanking you for your space, I am,
H. B. HETHERINGTON,
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