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DUNCAN MARSHALL, Manager.

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MAKING WAR AGAINST THE LOW TARIFF GOVERNMENT

The Toronto Mail and Empire rises to denounce the Laurier government for their low tariff policy, past and present, for what they have done to ward easing off the bonds on the Canadian consumer and for what it fears and believes they are likely to do further in the same direction. The Mail, of course, tariff reductions are necessary and inevitable iniquities, and the results altogether to the advantage of the other fellow. This, however, in no way invalidates its testimony that the Laurier government is a low tariff government both in traditions and intention, and that being such they stand squarely opposed to the tariff ideals and purposes for which the opposition party stands. It assails Sir Wilfrid Laurier both on account of what he has done to encourage reciprocity with the United States, and on account of what it thinks he will do in the same direction in future. It says—

"South of the boundary line the outcome of our general election is regarded as auspicious for United States trade expansion. In the mass of United States newspaper comment on the political campaign in this country there is to be found little that shows leaning towards the side of the Conservatives. Sir Wilfrid Laurier was clearly the favorite of our neighbors. They remember his labors for reciprocity with their country and his substantial tariff concessions thereto at a time when United States duties were being hoisted up against Canada. The New York Sun says there is no question of the absolute sincerity of Sir Wilfrid's recent assertion that he is ready at any time to enter into reciprocal relations with the United States."

"Among the reciprocity promoters whom the outcome of the elections has roused to new activity is Mr. J. Hill. That shrewd and enterprising man is not in politics but he is not going out of his field at all when he turns in to help along the movement for freer trade boundaries. Mr. Hill is the chief of a great railway system whose way he has extended into Canada. He has gone opening new lines into Western wheat fields, coal areas, and ore deposits, and into our Pacific coast. In the first week of this month the day is coming when there will be no tariff restrictions on the international trade in the form of protection. The border lines are built to carry. The success of Sir Wilfrid Laurier at the polls in 1906 was welcome to Mr. Hill, for Sir Wilfrid had promised to abolish protection. In the tariff revision of 1907 Sir Wilfrid took a step towards the abolition of this pledge, and the United States benefited by the substantial reductions he made in the tariff on iron and steel, and on various products thereof. A result of these changes in favor of our neighbors has been a tremendous expansion in the volume of trade. This expansion has brought traffic to Mr. Hill's lines running into Canada, and Western markets have particularly benefited by the manufacturing of the United States. Mindful of what Sir Wilfrid has already done that is helpful to the Great Northern system and its allies, and mindful of what more Sir Wilfrid has promised to do for the benefit of Canada from the Roosevelt government. Now that Mr. Taft is to be president and that the Laurier government has a general of power, the dawn brightens for Mr. Hill, and he returns with zeal to the advocacy of reciprocity. "Truth is that outside of the members of provincial governments, Mr. Bor-

"don ever since he became leader of the Conservative party, has fought 'almost a single-handed battle.' The battle over, thus does the News declare its share of credit for the outcome. The selfishness is charming but it is really too unjust. The war must not be permitted to lay aside his well-worn laurels in this off-hand fashion. If excessive modesty impels him to do it, it becomes the duty of opponents to place credit where credit is due. Respect for a fallen enemy demands no less. The News 'dit also in the war,' despite its modest disclaimer. Mr. Borden

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TARIFFS AND UNEMPLOYMENT. Industrial Canada says the better conditions of the Canadian workman are accounted for by the existence of a protective tariff, while Britain has not protection. Such statements are easily made, so easily made, that they are essentially simple, so simple that only the uninitiated can be taken in by them. Comparisons between Britain and Canada are resorted to by the protectionists only when Canada is enjoying the results of reduced tariff and when Britain is suffering from the abnormal conditions created by world-wide depression. Such comparisons were not tolerated in that school in the good old days when the Human's gallows tariff choked the life out of the industry and trade of this country while England was building factories every year faster than the year before.

A comparison to test the industrial effectiveness of the opposing tariff doctrines may be made. The main thing is to compare similar circumstances, say between Britain and Germany, France or the United States. Is the British workman worse off than the workman in Berlin, Paris or New York? In Britain one man in ten is idle. In Britain three are idle for every two in Britain. In New Zealand one man in five is idle. In France one man in three is idle. Free trade Britain is not claimed to be immune from the depression which occasionally sweep over the industrial world. Manifestly high tariff Germany, high tariff United States and protectionist France can claim no such immunity, nor even so much immunity as free trade Britain. If free trade affords no certain specific for the ill of depression certainly protection affords less.

SCORE ONE FOR JOHN BULL. Some time ago the new British patent law came into force. The main provision of this requires foreign holders of British patents, if they wish to continue to hold them, to establish factories in Britain for the manufacture of their patented wares. Unless they do so they lose their patents. At once sharp-eyed critics discerned in the horizon the dim but very distinct outline of an avenue of averging fate. Britain was told had done it at last. She had antagonized the manufacturing world and said world was to wreck swift and certain vengeance on her for it. "Combinations" it was said, were forming overseas to flood the universe with the product of foreign factories carried in the ships of foreign nations. Just where these dread monsters—there seemed to be a whole family of them—had their abodes was not announced, but their existence was declared with all the assurance of full and first hand information. Of their form and substance there was no definite information, but they were supposed to be the more impressed that the vision was the more clear.

UNWANTED HONORS. Says the Toronto News: "The blunt 'truth is that outside of the members of provincial governments, Mr. Borden ever since he became leader of the Conservative party, has fought 'almost a single-handed battle.' The battle over, thus does the News declare its share of credit for the outcome. The selfishness is charming but it is really too unjust. The war must not be permitted to lay aside his well-worn laurels in this off-hand fashion. If excessive modesty impels him to do it, it becomes the duty of opponents to place credit where credit is due. Respect for a fallen enemy demands no less. The News 'dit also in the war,' despite its modest disclaimer. Mr. Borden

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CANADA AND THE U. S. TARIFF. It may be taken for granted that the promised revision of the United States tariff is to be a revision upward. This, indeed, has been generally understood for some time. While the pre-election resolutions of the Republican conventions, like the pre and post-election declarations of the party leaders, were couched in the usual non-committal language they were made to convey the obvious which are universally avowed to promote high-tariff doctrine. So far as the fiscal platform formed a part of Mr. Taft's platform it took the form of a promise to overhaul the tariff for the purpose of rejuvenating the industry and commerce of the country, of reawakening the confidence of capital and increasing the opportunities of employment. As these are the results insistently claimed by high protectionists, for their theory and that alone, the meaning of the announcement coming from the source is not difficult to understand by all concerned. Mr. Bryan no doubt might have with equal sincerity avowed a similar purpose and built up an argument to prove that lower tariff would have accomplished it more fully and more quickly, but beyond the border the idea of prosperity has been thoroughly associated everywhere and always with the doctrine of protection that a promise to produce or pro-

more prosperity is a sufficiently well understood promise to boost the tariff on whatever lines of commodities are not proving profitable enough to the men engaged in their production. That the proposed revision means a broad-based elevation is not at all likely. Mr. Cannon intimated the contrary at Chicago a few days ago. But it is a safe assumption that the reason for making a revision at all is to raise the duties on certain and perhaps many lines of goods, and there is little reason to suppose that this will be accomplished by any material reduction on other lines. For though Mr. Cannon also intimated that there might be reductions it does not often happen that a tariff-revision revision even matters up by taking off one item what is piled on another. From the preliminary announcements therefore we do not expect a decided raise in many items, not likely accompanied by any considerable reduction.

This is of interest to Canada because it foreshadows the likelihood or unlikelihood of bettered commercial relations between this country and the Republic during the present year. That anything will be done through the tariff toward increasing the introduction of the children to see the old man holding his own and getting large slices of the other fellow's own good. All this must be very annoying to the neighbors, but it is mighty gratifying to the children to see the old man holding his own and getting large slices of the other fellow's own good.

To Britain the outcome of the patent law policy must be unusually gratifying. The spectacle of German and American capitalists putting millions into the building of British factories; spending other millions in buying raw material all over creation to be hauled to the factories in British ships; paying other millions to British workmen to convert this material into manufactured goods, to be hauled all over creation again by British ships and sold in competition with the goods made in the United States and Germany; this is surely a spectacle with elements of honor as well as evidences of British business sagacity.

GRUDDGED CREDIT. A section of the Ontario press raises a jubilant chorus that the West is paying its debts with the proceeds of the season's crop. This is quite true, and there is certainly no objection in the general acknowledgment of value received; but it would be much more gratifying if the complementary half of the case were as readily admitted. That is, it hears plenty about what it owes the East. It hears more than plenty when a crop reverse prevents the full and prompt payment of the bills. It hears very little about the reciprocal debt the East owes the West. In the western merchant over the eastern manufacturer or dealer it is because he has provided the manufacturer or dealer with a market for his wares, a market without which he would be still occupying the small quarters and doing the small business of two years ago. The more money the West owes the East the more must the East owe the West for industrial and trade expansion. To announce that we owe the manufacturing and trading concerns much is merely a back-handed way of admitting that the manufacturing and trading interests owe us much for the fact that they are doing now a larger business than they formerly did, or hoped to do, or dreamed of doing. But it is only an inferential and unintended admission, and in no sense the frank kind of credit that is due the West for the outlet and current it gave to the stagnant industry and the life breathed into the paralyzed industries of the older provinces.

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ON THE SIDE. Toronto claims 287,000 population, Hamilton to bat. B. B. Bennett wants prohibition of the new stock act. The enormous difference between the amount paid by the shareholders who secure the new stock at par and the actual value of the stock puts millions of easy money in the shareholders' pockets, and in the public being taxed in passenger and freight rates to pay dividends on millions of dollars of "water," that is, imaginary capital, which is very real, however, in its dividend-bearing power. It does not represent a dollar put into construction or equipment, but every phantom dollar of it brings its share of the pockets of the public into the warlike struggle for the two last Dominion election campaigns was waged upon the National Transcontinental by the P. R. and the political party which stood for the principle that it should not be transnational competition with the C. P. R. Before the next Dominion election campaign the new ocean-to-ocean highway with its rates meant to be in operation, in competition with the C. P. R. which will have to over, if the coming "melon-cutting" can in any way be blocked by the authorities at Ottawa, it should most certainly be blocked.

SANE IMPERIALISM. In view of the discussion evoked by Lord Milner's addresses on the subject of Imperial unity, the following extracts from a speech delivered by Principal Peterson, early this year, will be read with interest. "Some people seem to be unduly apprehensive that our imperial relations will interfere with the full and free development of Canadian nationality. I do not share that apprehension. Freedom of Imperial unity is a great and noble definition of the term. I do not object to call myself an imperialist. For me imperialism is not militarism, nor jingoism, nor megalomania, nor the bragging of drums, or the enthrallment of the masses by a superior power; in the same and without a subordinate, namely, the desire that, for the high and noble purposes of its world-wide mission, the British Empire may be able to hold together in all coming time. "The Scotchman is cosmopolitan by nature, but let me add that he is not richer and more powerful neighbor has prevented the Scotch people from maintaining throughout their history all the characteristics of a proud and self-reliant nationality. I am proud of my Scotch birth. I am proud, as I have said, to put Canada first. I pray that, in free and equal co-operation with the other component states of a united empire, Canada may remain true to the pursuit of common interests, the defence of common independence, and the love of common interests. "Difficulties of Country. "We must not mislead ourselves by excessive self-praise. It is well at the same time to have an eye to the defects of our qualities. One of our difficulties arises from the very size and extent of our country. Conditions are so various, and the circumstances and surroundings of life in different countries so highly diversified, that many people seem to find it hard to realize a responsible conception of unity. We must rise superior to any handicaps that geography may happen to have set on our political evolution. We hear too much of the provinces at large, and too little of the provinces at times. Local interests are apt to be too prominent, and if we are forced to give them undue consideration we shall always be in danger of suffering from that most expatriating of all political afflictions—the curse of having little men fill our big places. "Moulding National Character. "So much for the development of our own citizenship, and for the forces and influences that ought to go to the moulding of our national character. "What am I to say now to our relations to the mother country, and to the other component states of the mighty empire of which I hope that this Dominion may for ever continue to form a part? This is a subject which I approach with a mixture of confidence and trepidation. When all can be said that can be said, we ought to be, and we are, proud of our imperial connection. For we know that in the world, as we find it today, the strength and prosperity of our united empire affords one of the best possible guarantees of order and freedom, justice, peace and progress. "The British empire is the largest political unit in the world today, and that has ever existed. It is the only system that has made good the old motto—'Empireum est Libertas.' It has really and truly reconciled empire and liberty. No empire known to history, except the British Empire, has shown itself capable of containing a variety of independent or practically independent governments. The problem before us today is how to keep the self-governing parts in touch with

each other and with the center. If you are interested in the solution of that problem, you are what I call an Imperialist. Certainly you will want to go on with the experiment. Those who insist on raising this subject are often charged with an excess of zeal, just as though it were a culpable offence to be interested in the practical possibility of some form of federation or alliance among the various members of the British race. The security of the present position at that we are not likely to agree on an wrong move, and without more or less general agreement we shall not move at all.

Hands Must Not Be Tied. "But we are told that while it is all very well to speak of imperial rights and privileges, the danger for Canada begins when it is implied that there are corresponding responsibilities and obligations. And those who dislike the subject are fond of arguing that a country such as this must not be its hand in any way tied, that if imperial relations prove to be in any way incompatible with the fullest and freest development with imperial relations will have to be sacrificed. Nothing is to be tolerated, they will say, that limits or prejudices the autonomy of the Dominion. "Partnership in Business and Nations. "How is it with business partnership? The man who goes into partnership with others is not quite as free an agent as he was before he signed his name. He has accepted, in the common interest, certain obligations on his freedom. It is the same with nations. Inter-dependence is the ruling principle of all partnerships—not independence; but equality of status need not thereby be prejudiced. Inter-dependence with imperial relations, such as, for example, a direct subsidy from Canada to the navy, may perhaps be deprecated in this connection. No should it be forgotten that Canada has, for many years, been giving assistance to the empire in many directions. The Pacific expedition on transport and administration, she has enforced the fisheries regulations with imperial powers at a cost of from a quarter to half-a-million dollars per annum. She has patrolled the great lakes, surveyed the coast, and is instituting wireless telegraphy on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. The Pacific navy, which she has built, is the backbone of the next scene in the drama of human development, and no one will say that Canada has not done her share. This is hardly the time for meandering spirit people to go on rehearsing the arguments of the past, when the colonies, Britain would need to keep up just as big a fleet. It should not be forgotten that it is under the protection of the navy that the empire has grown up, and is still maintained and preserved. If Britain had not had the empire, the world would be a very different place. A measure close to the map of the world would be a great and noble definition of the term. I do not object to call myself an imperialist. For me imperialism is not militarism, nor jingoism, nor megalomania, nor the bragging of drums, or the enthrallment of the masses by a superior power; in the same and without a subordinate, namely, the desire that, for the high and noble purposes of its world-wide mission, the British Empire may be able to hold together in all coming time. 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Hands Must Not Be Tied. "But we are told that while it is all very well to speak of imperial rights and privileges, the danger for Canada begins when it is implied that there are corresponding responsibilities and obligations. And those who dislike the subject are fond of arguing that a country such as this must not be its hand in any way tied, that if imperial relations prove to be in any way incompatible with the fullest and freest development with imperial relations will have to be sacrificed. Nothing is to be tolerated, they will say, that limits or prejudices the autonomy of the Dominion. "Partnership in Business and Nations. "How is it with business partnership? The man who goes into partnership with others is not quite as free an agent as he was before he signed his name. He has accepted, in the common interest, certain obligations on his freedom. It is the same with nations. Inter-dependence is the ruling principle of all partnerships—not independence; but equality of status need not thereby be prejudiced. Inter-dependence with imperial relations, such as, for example, a direct subsidy from Canada to the navy, may perhaps be deprecated in this connection. No should it be forgotten that Canada has, for many years, been giving assistance to the empire in many directions. The Pacific expedition on transport and administration, she has enforced the fisheries regulations with imperial powers at a cost of from a quarter to half-a-million dollars per annum. She has patrolled the great lakes, surveyed the coast, and is instituting wireless telegraphy on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. The Pacific navy, which she has built, is the backbone of the next scene in the drama of human development, and no one will say that Canada has not done her share. 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