

restriction by tariff-beneficiaries in Ontario, if daily vituperated by their organs? If that be not the supposition, is it madness, with a prodigious war so perceptible to the chief vituperators, to exacerbate the profound discontent of our prairie people, set them more and more against favouring the necessary defence for Canadian coasts remote to them, and add prairie sullenness to that which our truculents seem endlessly endeavouring to promote in Quebec?

The urban and rural populations of Canada were pretty well united not long ago. If our truculents be truly prophetic in anticipating great war, surely the rural folk, on whose strength and hardihood must be our main dependence for defence, should not receive any further impression that they are dominated by city interests than was given them by the majority vote of last September. But certain city organs, in view of the imminent redistribution Act, contend that city representation must be largely increased, in a manner to diminish the political powers of rural constituencies. This tends to add another dissension to those more important troubles that the domineers promote.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier furthered no enmities, he strove but too sedulously for conciliation all round. If in that persistent policy he wholly satisfied no element or region, the measure of his success is in the length of his tenure, the equally long general quiet of Canada, the good-will which he attracted from Great Britain, the United States, France, and even Germany towards the end. Conciliation cannot forever soothe those in the Canadian family, who, receiving not all they demand but all that can be conceded to them without injustice to other and perhaps contrary elements, grow angrier to be denied aught while those they detest receive some measure of consideration. The Great Conciliator was aware, even five years ago, that his method could not uninterruptedly triumph. He created no body of emphatic favourers of strong courses, but sought mainly to promote peace and good-will among his diverse fellow-countrymen, in order that they might pursue their industrial labours calmly and profitably.