

FIELDING ANNOUNCES A \$16,500,000 SURPLUS; MANY CHANGES IN TARIFF.

Oil Duty Cut in Two—Woolens from Mother Country to Pay 6 1/2 Per Cent. More—Free List Enlarged—Tit-for-tat Policy Against Countries With Hostile Tariffs—Special Duties Will Be Levied on Any Goods Dumped Into Canada.

Ottawa, June 7.—(Special)—The main features of the financial statement of Hon. W. S. Fielding presented in the house today are: A surplus of \$16,500,000 for the current year; reduction of public debt by \$7,500,000; a minimum of thirty per cent. for cloths, tweeds and other goods of that class, instead of twenty-three and a third under British preference; twice and one-half the amount of sugar from Germany, but instead the whole of that trade has been diverted to the British West Indies. While the falling off would show most conspicuously in sugar, Germany's trade with Canada had suffered in other branches. Her importation of silks, wools and steel had decreased, and on the whole, the surplus has been a good thing for Canada, and for the British Empire generally.

Stopped the Impartation of Sugar. The effect of this surtax was illustrated by a special item. Formerly Canada imported a large amount of sugar from Germany. Since the imposition of the surtax not a single pound of sugar has come from Germany, but instead the whole of that trade has been diverted to the British West Indies. While the falling off would show most conspicuously in sugar, Germany's trade with Canada had suffered in other branches. Her importation of silks, wools and steel had decreased, and on the whole, the surplus has been a good thing for Canada, and for the British Empire generally.

Present Protection Adequate. Mr. Fielding continued that there was evidence of a gratifying character as to the adequacy of the present tariff protection. The tariff, he said, without being excessive, is high enough to bring some American industries across the line, and that is pretty good evidence as to the adequacy of the protection it affords. If honorable gentlemen opposite want to see the results of the present tariff, let them go to Hamilton and look at the vast industries established there by United States capitalists; let them go to the city of Toronto and they will find similar organizations of American capitalists engaged in the manufacturing business. So we can say that not only has the tariff been a great revenue tariff, but it has afforded also a reasonable degree of incidental protection, and one which has worked out as far as that particular class of industries is concerned, very gratifying results.

British Preference a Good Thing. The question of British preferential trade engaged his attention next. Mr. Fielding claimed that the opposition would not have granted a preference to Great Britain without obtaining corresponding returns from the mother government. This government's view was that no progress could be made along these lines. We felt that the true method for Canada to pursue was to make a start and await developments. Now, sir, looking back over the history of these years, I can fairly say that in leading the way on this great question Canada took a step through the British Empire. We have found that in the portions of the empire where they have not yet been able to follow our example they have spoken with the warmest admiration of the course Canada has pursued, and they have recognized that in that step of ours much was done for development of the empire. But we ourselves have not been without some material results.

Liberal and Conservative Surpluses Contrasted. Mr. Fielding then came to the story of the surpluses and deficits. In the eighteen years of Conservative administration there was an average annual surplus of \$544,000. The average surplus since this government came to office in 1896 has been \$7,235,000. In the eight years of Liberal rule there has been an increase of \$14,111,236 and decreases of \$15,193,000 to the public debt of Canada, so that the affairs of the country, in spite of the large enterprises under way, were conducted with a net decrease in the public debt amounting in each of the last eight years to \$135,024, as against an annual increase of \$8,833,000 during the eighteen years of Conservative government down to 1896.

Decrease in Per Capita Debt. As to the debt per head of population, the finance minister estimated that on June 30, 1904, it would represent \$40.06, as against \$49.08 in 1891 and \$50 in 1896. He followed this with several tables indicative of the commercial and industrial prosperity of the dominion.

Great Increase in Foreign Trade. Our foreign trade, which amounted to \$217,000,000 in 1873; \$230,000,000 in 1883; \$247,000,000 in 1893; stood at \$470,000,000 in the year up to June 30 last.

Immigration Returns for 1903 showed arrivals of 134,370, comprising 50,000 from Britain, 45,000 from continental countries, and 39,370 from the United States. The showing of the present season would be equally encouraging.

Surtax Hurt Germany. Hon. Mr. Fielding made an interesting reference to the surtax. He stated that some time ago it became necessary for Canada to impose a surtax upon goods coming from Germany. The effect of that action had been considerable. The trade returns showed a heavy falling off in the imports from Germany. During the last ten months of last year there had been imported from Germany goods to the value of \$8,648,000. During the same period

this year the amount of German goods imported was \$5,367,000, a decrease of \$3,281,000, or about thirty-eight per cent.

Some Tariff Changes. We have some tariff changes to propose this session, but although we have no revision many items in the tariff, in fact almost every item bears a relation to other items. This it becomes necessary to have a general inquiry before any detailed revision could be undertaken.

Before the last revision of the tariff a commission composed of the minister of finance and a number of business men of the country. All interests were taken into the revision, and with all the details it will probably be the part of wisdom that we should commission some other body to conduct inquiry. The result of such an inquiry will have to make a thorough revision can be undertaken.

Separate Tariffs to Separate Countries. I think it would be the part of wisdom to continue separate tariffs applying to separate countries in order that we may be able to deal fairly with the various countries that adopt more or less generally with those other countries who pursue a somewhat hostile course towards us.

We have today practically a maximum and minimum tariff and then we have the British preference below that again. I would be well to take the British preference down to twenty per cent. We propose to reduce this so that the British preference on these goods, instead of being one-third shall be one-half.

Window Glass Reduced to 1-2 Per Cent. We deal in like manner with window glass, the duty on which is at present twenty per cent., with one-third off to the United Kingdom. We propose that the duty on window glass imported from the old country, shall be seven and a half per cent.

Wooden Pails and Tub's Duty Increased. In item 330, schedule A, there is a group of articles from which we want to strike out pails and tubs of wood. The effect of this is to reduce the duty on these articles from twenty-five per cent. to twenty per cent., as they are not of a nature to be made in Canada.

Minimum Valuation on Buggies. In item 323 of schedule A, we propose to amend item 323, so that the duty on buggies shall be reduced from \$40 on an open buggy, and a minimum valuation of \$50 on a covered buggy.

Cheap Stallions and Mares Prohibited. We propose to insert in the list of prohibited goods, an item to exclude stallions and mares of less value than \$30 each.

Mirror Glass 10 Per Cent on Certain Sizes. In item 203 of schedule A, we deal with the duties on glass imported in certain conditions. For advanced work in Canada at present there are three rates on that class of goods. It is proposed that glass that is bevelled and used by manufacturers. The rates at present are twenty-five per cent. and thirty per cent. on different grades. We propose to make another grade at ten per cent., which will apply to panes not exceeding seven square feet, such as are imported for use as mirrors.

The Oil Duties. During the various discussions of the tariff question no one has been more fully taken up with this house and outside than the duty on oil. Oil, of course, is an article of universal consumption. Even in the cities and towns, as the light of the oil producer, and these are not always the same. The oil refiners are sometimes also owners of wells, but there are in Canada many hundreds of owners of the oil producer, and these are not always the same. The oil refiners are sometimes also owners of wells, but there are in Canada many hundreds of owners of the oil producer, and these are not always the same. The oil refiners are sometimes also owners of wells, but there are in Canada many hundreds of owners of the oil producer, and these are not always the same.

General Revision at an Early Date. But, sir, we have to consider matters as they are today, and we desire to deal with certain things as they present themselves to us today, reserving the question of a more general and more detailed revision until an early date. I would say hopefully next session, but at all events as soon as a proper inquiry can be made.

To Relieve Woolen Industries. He considered much of the criticism of the woolen duties in the present tariff unjustifiable. No amount of tariff could save these industries from trouble, because in every one of those that has not been the

perfection of management necessary in these days of keen competition, he was struck by the way in which they were equipped with most modern machinery and that they were not therefore in the position to fully enjoy the benefits which the tariff already holds out to them. But while there are cases of that kind nevertheless, the government was led to believe that the woolen industry is suffering severely from competition and the government proposes to deal with it by a special item in the tariff.

The complaint is made by our woolen manufacturers very largely and by public men who sympathize with them, that although on the better grades of goods they can fairly compete with even the British manufacturer, a very large proportion of the imports of woolen goods coming into Canada are really shoddy goods of an inferior character, against which we ought to legislate.

It is alleged, moreover, that an increase we might make on woolen duties would have the effect of shutting out the better grades of goods, and that is what is argued with great force, and I am inclined to think that there is something in it.

However, we propose to deal with the matter in this way: Our present duty on the class of goods which I may describe as cloths, tweeds, overcoatings and goods of that kind, is thirty per cent. That is argued with great force, and I am inclined to think that there is something in it.

Minimum Tariff of 30 Per Cent on Woolens. We do not propose to increase the general tariff, but we propose to fix a limit on the extent to which the preference shall apply to these goods. We propose to fix a minimum tariff of thirty per cent. on this class of goods coming in under the preferential tariff. This change will apply to all woolen goods mentioned in the tariff item 334, with the exception of blankets, flannels, bed comforters and counterpanes, which are placed in a group by themselves.

Minimum Tariff to Countries Not Commercially Hostile. We deal in a similar manner with the item of twine and cordage. These goods are today subject to twenty-five per cent., which the deduction under the preference brings down to a minimum rate of 12 1/2 per cent. This is a lower rate than even the most moderate tariff man is usually willing to impose, and we fix the minimum duty on imports from the only country at twenty per cent. While thus dealing with twine and cordage, we do not touch the privilege already granted to fishermen, which is placed in a group by themselves.

On tableware, china, porcelain, and clay the duty is thirty per cent. We propose to reduce this so that the British preference on these goods, instead of being one-third shall be one-half.

We propose that machinery of the kind not made in Canada, when imported for the manufacture of linen shall be made free. We have reason to believe that in this way we can encourage the development of the flax industry in Canada.

We propose that machinery of the kind not made in Canada for the manufacture of certain classes of brass goods shall be placed on the free list. The goods which these machines make are at present on the free list and we propose to assist the manufacturer by giving them free machinery.

We propose also to include on the free list at the request of the dentists of the country artificial teeth.

We propose to put on the free list at the request of the farmers quass juice, which is used in spraying, quass petroleum, fuel and gas oils; 40 per cent. kerosene gravity or less at 40 degrees temperature 82 1/2 specific gravity are added to the free list.

Well-Drilling Machinery on the Free List. Well drilling machinery and apparatus of a class not made in Canada for drilling for water and oil are added to the free list, but this is not to include motive power.

We made provision last year for putting on the free list certain machinery of a kind not made in Canada for use exclusively in alluvial gold mining for one year. We extend that privilege for one year.

There are one or two differences which we do not affect the duties but relate solely to the administration of the department. Mr. Fielding explained these and went on to say: Manufacturers of neckwear have made clear their finished article comes under the British preference while their raw material does not. They are at a disadvantage in consequence. We therefore propose to provide a special rate of 10 per cent for silk fabrics imported for the manufacture of men's neckwear.

These are all the details wherein we propose to change the tariff. There are some further proposals of the utmost importance. Conditions change and it is the duty of the government and of parliament to meet them. We are particularly interested in the new conditions of free trade countries like England, business is conducted on rational lines, and these disturbing conditions seldom exist. The eye-balls of the trade are known as slanting or dumping, that is a trust having control of its own market and finding that

duction of crude oil has not increased, and we are not able to supply our own requirements.

We have determined to add the crude oil industry by a bounty of one and a half cents per gallon to producers in Canada. That will not be a heavy burden on the treasury.

Let me see how this will affect the people in a financial way. In 1903, the consumption of refined oil and naphtha in Canada was as follows: Canadian oil, 7,753,790 gallons; American, 17,909,860 gallons. If we reduce the duty that reduction applies so far as the consumer is concerned not only to the price paid on the imported oil, but the price of the refined oil. This reduction, therefore, will affect an immediate reduction in the price of oil at the refineries in Canada and from the refineries the various distributing companies and from these to the shop keeper and in due season reaching the consumers.

More Than \$600,000 Saved to the People. The saving to the people on the imported oil will amount to \$1,188,883. We will pay a bounty on the crude oil produced in Canada amounting last year to \$1,682,840 gallons. This means that the people will pay out through the treasury in the form of bounty \$232,730, whereas they would have paid on the year's transaction of \$890,007.

Fuel Oil on the Free List. Besides the people will receive further advantages by having fuel oil placed on the free list and that is an important item to manufacturers using petroleum for fuel purposes.

All Petroleum Products Reduced. There will be a further advantage of a reduction of all the duties upon all the various petroleum products. This, particularly wax candles are reduced from 31 per cent to 25 per cent and paraffine wax is also reduced from 31 to 25 per cent. Illuminating oils of the highest grade are reduced from 25 per cent to 20 per cent; crude petroleum of the highest character, the duty on which is now 21 cents per gallon, will be reduced to 15 cents per gallon, while petroleum in the crude form will be placed on the free list.

We propose to amend the free list a number of articles, some of which are not very important in themselves, but have importance in relation to certain industries. We were asked to place on the free list goods for the improvement of stock which request has been granted.

We were asked to put white oil on the free list because it is much used by nurses and men and we are agreeing to that.

We were asked to put on the free list hydro fluo silic acid used largely by miners in their smelting and in the free list a number of articles, some of which are not very important in themselves, but have importance in relation to certain industries. We were asked to place on the free list goods for the improvement of stock which request has been granted.

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ORANGE GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH AMERICA

Pictou, Ont., June 8.—(Special)—A largely attended and representative gathering assembled in the Court House here this afternoon at the opening of the Grand Orange Lodge of British America. Delegates were in attendance from all parts of the dominion, also from Newfoundland. The grand master's address contained some important statements and valuable suggestions which he discussed and acted upon during the meeting. The various reports from different officers were highly satisfactory. The growth of order generally and especially in Western Canada was much greater than any previous year and beyond the anticipation of the most sanguine.

The Best Family Medicine.

The best, surest, safest and most reliable remedy for all ailments, which are Bowel troubles. You will save doctor's bills, sickness and suffering. You always have and use Beecham's Pills. Sold Everywhere. In boxes 25 cents.

Could Not Lie On Her Left Side.

Expected Her Friends Would Find Her Dead. Mrs. C. Campbell, Campbellton, N.B., was completely cured by MILBURN's Heart and Nerve Pills.

She tells of her experience in the following letter: "I was troubled with a pain in my heart and weakness for six years. Most of the time I could not lie on my left side. I consulted a doctor but got no relief and was completely discouraged. I did not think I would live long and expected my friends would find me dead. A friend brought me a box of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills and I took them to please her, not thinking they would do me any good. I had not used half the box when I commenced to feel myself getting better and by the time I had taken two boxes I was completely cured and can recommend them to all sufferers from heart trouble." Price 50 cts. per box or 3 for \$1.25, all dealers, or THE T. MILBURN CO., Limited, TORONTO, ONT.

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The Granger's Condicion Powders. The Only Powder that has had the last of health. Cure Stomach, Swelled Legs, and Blood, Horse Ill, Cough, Thick Water, A blood Tonic and Purifier. At all Dealers. Price 25 cts. THE GRANGER CO., Ltd., Proprietors. WOODBURY, N. B.