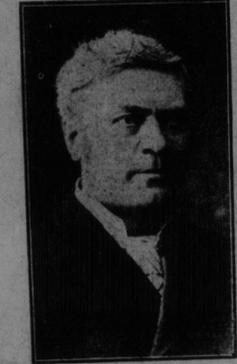


MR. SIFTON UNDOES THE PACT

CLEARLY SHOWS ST. JOHN WILL PAY THE PENALTY

Diversion of the Traffic from East and West to North and South, which will Follow Adoption of Laurier-Taft Agreement, will be Death Blow to Winter Port Business.



H. A. POWELL, K. C., Candidate for the City of St. John.

That the people of St. John are accused to the menace of the reciprocity pact was made abundantly manifest last evening when thousands of representative citizens thronged to hear Hon. Clifford Sifton, a former minister in the Laurier government give his reasons for opposing reciprocity. So great was the interest that the big rink was crowded to the doors long before 8 o'clock, and hundreds thronged the street in front of the rink unable to gain admission, though no special efforts had been made to drum up a crowd by means of brass bands, torch light processions and free railway tickets to the faithful from all parts of the province.

85 per cent. of the total of the agricultural products of Canada. Of the amount over the amount consumed by the home market the balance had been exported, largely to the markets of Great Britain, where it was sold finding a ready reception. That whole great system had been built up by a lengthy system of careful education and liberal expenditure. It had taken years to provide cold storage facilities in cars and ships in Canada and westward delivered in good condition in the British markets, and money had been spent in educating the British purchaser to the merit of the Canadian goods.

Prosperous Now. The result of it all was that the Canadian farmer was in an independent position in regard to his home market, and had built up profitable export trade with Great Britain.

The people of Canada had arrived at a state of great prosperity, and go on record as saying that there had been no discrimination and no excuse for the threat of the United States. The tariff of Canada against the United States was about half as high as that of the United States against Canada and Canada benefits from the United States as the United States government from the United States. The tariff of Canada against France which they claimed was discriminatory against Canada, was something that had been done. Something was done, concessions were made to the United States and the President of the United States graciously pleased to say that in the circumstances he did not see that the tariff should be imposed. At that time arrangements that negotiations should be entered into at a future time for a degree of reciprocity in natural products.

Country Before Party. Mr. Sifton had taken a part in this campaign not as a Tory partisan but as a man who had placed his country and his country's welfare ahead of his party. He had taken a large part in the defeat of the Conservative government in 1896 and he had occupied a prominent position in the Liberal party since that time.

Referring to the trade pact, Mr. Sifton went on to explain its provisions. It throws down the bars and opens the farmer's markets to the people of the Maritime Provinces and products of Canada. It also opened the farmer's markets of Canada to the people of the British Empire and the twelve favored nations and the tariff on certain raw materials manufactured from farm products.

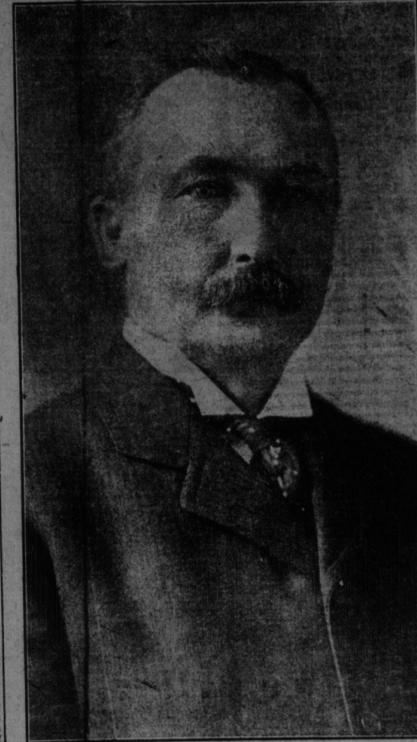
When the agreement was brought back to Ottawa the members who did not agree with the government did not object to it. It was not until the government did not furnish the necessary facts for an intelligent opinion on it. All through the discussion there had been the opinion and the conviction that the government was holding something back.

After expressing his pleasure at the very large and representative meeting which had assembled to hear the reciprocity pact discussed, Mr. Sifton said he came before the public for the purpose of explaining the reasons which caused him to break with his party on the question. He was not biased by party views because if he were still held to be supporting the government in this election, he had no personal animosity against Sir Wilfrid Laurier or any of his ministers or his relations with them had always been most cordial. He was actuated by his sense of duty as a citizen and he desired to speak to his audience as one citizen to another.

For the last 25 years Canada had made great progress under the protective policy which had been enunciated in 1879 and which with some modifications had been in force ever since. This policy had opened the way for the farmers as well as to the manufacturers and however unimportant the agricultural schedule might have been in 1879 it was now of the utmost importance.

During the last ten or twelve years there had been a remarkable development in Canada along certain lines. Vast expenditures had been made by the government in inducing agricultural settlers to come into the Canadian west and hundreds of thousands of dollars had been spent in studying the agricultural possibilities of the country and providing for its development. Millions of dollars had been spent in providing facilities for the marketing of the products of the Canadian west. Great expenditures had been made in the canal systems, in the transportation systems and in the Canadian harbors in order that the agricultural products of the west might be developed to their highest extent.

Later there had been a great industrial development, all had worked together to contribute to the prosperity of Canada. In consequence of this development there had been a great increase in the manufacturing industries and in the transportation lines and this had provided the Canadian farmer with a home market which consumed



HON. CLIFF FORD SIFTON.

the farmer of the United States flooding the markets of Canada with their products because there was no way to bring them in. The developments and changes of the last twenty-five or thirty years have swept away all the reasons which ever existed in favor of reciprocity, and I venture to say that if these gentlemen who the supporters of the pact are so fond of quoting were alive today they would be found as leaders of the fight against the reciprocity agreement. (Applause and cheers.)

No Better Market for Hay. Next Sir Wilfrid says that the whole purpose of the pact is to give the farmer of Canada the benefit of a larger market. We will see. Take the matter of hay, which I have heard quoted. I understand that Boston is the most profitable market for the people of the Maritime Provinces to send their hay. Let me tell you that the only result of taking the duty off hay in the port of Boston is that there would be large quantities of hay shipped from New Brunswick, and larger quantities shipped from Quebec, and the Boston market which would be put on an import basis for hay would not be worth as much as the hay would be at the point of shipment.

Wheat Will Not Advance. "The American people are already protecting themselves against this very thing, for you know the American people think that when they passed the reciprocity agreement that settled it, and all this discussion and agitation in Canada is only a matter of form. Acting on this idea wheat dealers in Chicago have attempted to cover themselves and the price of wheat now on the Chicago market is lower than it is in Canada. Sir Wilfrid said that the wheat raisers would not have known that when he said that the wheat raisers would benefit, or if he did not know it, he should have kept it posted. The wheat growers of the west know it, and that is the reason why the argument that reciprocity will bring higher prices for wheat has been taken out of the campaign arguments in favor of it in the west."

Contradictory Statements. "They say, for instance, that prices are higher in the U. S. for certain agricultural products than in Canada; they say, for instance, that the highest quality of butter is higher in the U. S. than in Canada. I will take what they say as right. They admit outside of the highest quality that there is probably 85 per cent. of the total higher on the Canadian side. At the present time, cheese is higher in Canada than in the U. S. Our opponents claim the best quality is prevailing higher in the U. S. We will assume what they say is right, 10 per cent. enters the U. S. at the prevailing high prices. "The highest quality of cattle are variable, sometimes slightly higher and sometimes a little lower. The highest quality of eggs in some cities of Canada, a little lower than they are in some American cities; but generally speaking all the other grades of eggs are higher in Canada, considerably higher. (I will prove that to you in a few minutes). Sheep and lambs at the present time have been higher for several months past in Canada than in the U. S., apart from any local variation. "For many years sheep and lambs were much cheaper in Canada than in the United States. DURING THE LAST YEAR OR SO THEY HAVE BEEN DEARER IN CANADA AND CHEAPER IN THE UNITED STATES. A month or so ago a large shipment of sheep and lambs was sold in Toronto. After paying duty, in competition with sheep and lambs from Ontario farms, they were sold cheaper and the result was, of course, that the prices of Ontario and Quebec sheep went down. I want to explain how this occurred. Many have given the subject as much consideration as I, and I am not giving you any new information in regard to sheep and lambs. In the United States some years ago they started to protect the wool which is grown upon the sheep, and in consequence of that protection, which is extremely heavy, the growing of wool is very profitable. IN THE UNITED STATES GET TWO PROFITS, THE PROFIT ON WOOL, AND ON THE MEAT. THE RESULT IS THE MUTTON INDUSTRY HAS BEEN GROWING IN THE UNITED STATES VERY GREATLY, and that is the reason they are getting below us in their prices—owing to the fact that they get a larger profit on their wool—and the increase is such that the price is going to be permanently cheaper on our side."

GREAT MEETING HELD IN QUEENSBURG LAST NIGHT

Former Member of Laurier Cabinet Exposes the Folly of the Reciprocity Agreement while Thousands of Voters Cheer His Clear, Concise and Logical Presentation of the Case.

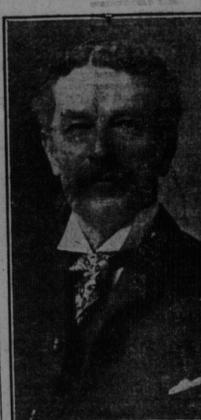
side, because the Canadian sheep raiser, his wool market open to the world, cannot get such prices as the American raiser and it is impossible for him to compete. "Under the favored nation clause which I will deal more specifically with in a few minutes, the sheep ranches of Argentina and New Zealand where the sheep are raised for the wool and where the flesh of the sheep is only a by-product, comes into direct competition with the Canadian farmer. It is as plain as the daylight that under reciprocity the sheep industry of Canada will be wiped off the map.

Favored Nation Clause. In reference to the favored nation clause Sir Wilfrid said to you that they would not come into competition and also that in every item covered by the schedule Canada exports more to the United States than she imports from it. We will see. In 1909 which is the last year for which we have complete returns, Canada exported to the United States to the value of \$11,551 and imported eggs to the value of \$177,000. We sent to the United States \$25,000 worth of cheese, and received back \$45,000 worth, \$24,000 worth of beans and received back \$35,000 worth. Of bacon we sent in \$7,875 worth and received back the amount of \$18,000 worth. Of lard, we sent in \$2,555 and received back, \$1,847,000 worth. In manufactured farm products we sent in the sum of \$3,388,000 worth in 1896 and in 1910, \$4,026,000 worth. The trade had grown less than a million in 25 years. At the same time we received from the United States in 1896 manufactured farm products to the value of \$4,656,000, and in 1910, \$18,000,000. Sir Wilfrid was no happier in his statistics than in his other arguments.

The farmers of Canada sell 85 per cent. of their produce in their home market, and any benefit which will come from this reciprocity pact will be on the 15 per cent. which they have for export. All the higher prices which they say the United States market will give us applies only to the 15 per cent. which is exported. If all the privileges of the United States markets were given to us with out anything in return that would not be so bad, but we are asked to open our doors not only to the United States but also to the whole of the British Empire and to the 12 favored nations mentioned in the pact.

Competition Will Increase. I am not going to deal with all the favored nations—it would be too laborious and quite unnecessary—I do not know it is worth while to read the list, but I have been at some meetings where some of the people did not know exactly what nations were referred to. The favored nations are Argentina, which is the one country in the world where progress has been faster than in Canada during the last ten years; Austria-Hungary, Bolivia, Hungary, Denmark (which is one of the countries that we have to admit beats us in butter and cheese in quality); Japan, Norway and Sweden, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Venezuela and in addition to these twelve the British Empire. I am going to speak of just a few of them. You are told you are going to get a market in the United States of 90 millions. Last year the United States produced enough to feed her 90 millions of the kind of products we raise in Canada, because what was imported was not worth mentioning, and in addition the United States exported last year \$438,000,000 of food stuff from her own ports. Russia, which is one of the favored nation countries, exported \$23,000,000 worth of butter; Australia, \$20,000,000 worth of beef; New Zealand \$4,000,000 worth of lamb; Argentina, \$5,000,000 worth of lamb. EVERY ONE OF THESE COUNTRIES IS AMONGST OUR STRONGEST COMPETITORS IN THE MARKETS OF THE WORLD; THERE IS NOT A SINGLE ONE OF THESE COUNTRIES TO WHICH WE, OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES, COULD SHIP ANYTHING WITH

Any Advantage. There is not a single one of these countries that cannot lay down all these products provided they have a favorable freight rate, at St. John, that would only add a trifling amount to the cost per pound at which it would be sold to the consumer. Taking last year's prices as a basis, beef of excellent quality which is raised



DR. J. W. DANIEL, Candidate for the City and County of St. John.

ly sold in Canada is brought from New Zealand to Montreal, to the Maritime Provinces and to parts of British Columbia; Argentine beef can be laid down in our market, duty paid for 7c. per lb. mutton and lamb laid down for 3c. per lb. Butter was imported from Australia last year and put on the market in the city of Montreal and reduced the prices from 27 1/2c. to 19c. per lb. In less than a month. (Applause). One million dozen of eggs were imported last year, the market in Montreal was broken by the eggs from Chicago. We bought eggs from Japan last year in considerable quantities. One million dollars' worth of vegetables were brought from the United States last year. Talking of the favored nation countries, in the months of April and May of this year, 1911, THERE WERE 351,000 LBS. MUTTON AND LAMB BROUGHT FROM AUSTRALIA AND SOLD IN CANADA, AND 162,000 OF MUTTON AND LAMBS FROM THE U. S.—7,742 bbls. of apples were brought in April and May from the U. S. and consumed in Canada, and 42,000 bushels potatoes from the U. S. in May and April and consumed in Canada. So that you come to this point, in consequence of the development of our farms, we have a good home market for 85 per cent. of our produce, a market which has been growing and getting better, but prices on that market have now got to the point, and this is the essential point of my argument—they have now got to the point when these very countries it is proposed to let into our market are able to send their goods in here and cut down the prices of our farmers in their home market.

Dumping in Canada. "The farmer of Canada will be brought into competition with practically the whole world. Whenever there is a glut of agricultural products in Russia or Argentina, they can be dumped in here to the detriment of the Canadian farmer. The negroes of the southern states can flood your markets with poultry and eggs which they can raise in that country a good deal cheaper than you can and you are asked to compete with them. I never saw such a preposterous proposition as this which leaves the Canadian farmer at the mercy of the world and then telling him that it was done for his own benefit. Every country in the world which is carrying on diversified agriculture successfully is a protected nation. Mr. Sifton then showed how the farmers of France, Germany and Belgium had prospered under protection, Denmark had no protection, but the Danish farmers were experts in dairying and there could be no competition with them. Continuing, he said: "The net result of the thing is that we have a home market which takes 85 per cent. of our produce and this market we are asked to throw open practically to the world. Continued on Page 2.

"I'm Not a Conservative, Don't Run Away With That Idea." No, Mr. Sifton, But You're a Man Who Places Canada, Imperial Trade and British Connection Before Party, and in That We Honor You.