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Big Conservative Majority.

The by-election for the House of Commons, held in the constituency of McDonald, Manitoba, on Saturday last, resulted in the return of the Conservative candidate by a majority of nearly 800. In the general election of last year, the Conservative, Mr. Staples, carried the constituency by only 161 majority. It will thus be seen that the result in this election is a decisive victory for the Borden Government, and a stinging blow to reciprocity with the United States.

The vacancy was caused by the appointment of the sitting member, Staples, to the Dominion Grain Commission. The Liberal Opposition have for months been dealing out to the public, through their press, all manner of rodomontade about reciprocity. They have striven with all their might to impress upon the public that the electors of the country had realized the mistake made by them in rejecting reciprocity in the general election of 1911, and that at the very first opportunity this fact would be emphatically demonstrated. The prairie Provinces, we were told, were especially up in arms against the Government, and no candidate opposing reciprocity could be elected there. Immediately prior to the election, Sir Wilfrid Laurier toured Ontario preaching the old political doctrine of reciprocity. We were told by the Liberal Press that the heather was on fire and that the whole country was anxiously waiting an opportunity to strike a fatal blow at the Government.

In the midst of all this hullabaloo by the Opposition, the Government brought on the election in McDonald and afforded the Liberals the opportunity they pretended to be anxious for. This constituency is in Manitoba, one of the Provinces claimed by the Opposition to be bubbling over with reciprocity sentiment. The riding is partly in the city of Winnipeg and partly in the adjoining country. In order to afford the farmers every opportunity of being represented to their taste, the Government put a farmer, Mr. Morrison, into the field as their candidate. One would be inclined to say that a fair chance was here offered for the expression of reciprocity sentiment. On the other hand the Opposition candidate was Mr. R. L. Richardson, an independent Liberal, and the Grain Growers' choice. This was the line up, and nearly every reciprocity tooter in the House of Commons came into the district during the election campaign; but in the face of all these circumstances, the Conservative was elected, as above stated, with a majority reaching nearly 800.

This verdict may fairly be regarded as the death blow to the reciprocity shibboleth. As a matter of fact, the fad was dead anyway, and the vain attempt of the Liberals to galvanize it into life has resulted in their utter rout, and they must now retire from the field in humiliation and chagrin.

Ottawa advises in reference to the result say that Premier Borden was greatly pleased, and made the following statement: "The result in McDonald was of more than ordinary importance. The Liberal leaders carried on their customary policy of endeavoring to arouse antagonism between the East and the

West, and in addition to this they resuscitated their reciprocity policy and staked their all upon an issue upon which Canada had already spoken. The electors of McDonald have rejected these appeals by an enormous and most convincing majority. I congratulate Mr. Morrison upon his splendid triumph in achieving which he was so ably and effectively assisted by my colleagues, Hon. Robert Rogers and Hon. Dr. Roche, as well as by Sir Rodmond Roblin, Prime Minister of the Province, and many other leading Conservatives of Manitoba."

Ontariolists to Sir Wilfrid Laurier in growing wonder, not that his premiership was ended, but that it ever began. —Toronto Telegram.

Good conversationalists are people who can talk interestingly without saying what they think. Nearly all women are good conversationalists. —Toledo Blade.

A petrified shark has been discovered in the Souris district, Manitoba. The archaeologists who announce the find, have omitted to say whether or not it was a land shark. —Victoria Colonist.

Waldorf Astor, expatriated millionaire American, now a member of the British Parliament, says on arriving in New York that "England has indigestion." Of course! Didn't she swallow Waldorf Astor? —Bangor News.

The non-commissioned officer of the Canadian permanent corps at Fredericton, who broke out of his place of confinement that he might make a 30-foot leap into the St. John river and save two lives, will be forgiven. —Vancouver News-Advertiser.

A boy in Alabama, mistaken by an enthusiastic hunter for an opossum, was shot and killed. One remarkable thing about these accidents, which now make a regular feature of the shooting season, is the accurate aim of the hunter who never fails to hit when he aims at a mistake. —Baltimore American.

It is of no use going in for wider markets unless the trade routes to these emporiums of commerce are fully and efficiently policed. It is to effect this that the Imperial Navy must be strengthened and maintained in the highest state of efficiency all the time. The paths of the seas are the police beats, and the police must not be beaten on this beat. —Calgary News-Telegram.

Canada, it is stated, furnishes 90 per cent. of the world's nickel, so important a factor in the manufacture of armor plate. It may thus be assured as the organ of the Conservation Commission asserts, that we possess such a potent weapon making for world-peace, but it is exceedingly doubtful that it will be used. Human greed for the almighty dollar will doubtless remain predominant for some time to come. —Hamilton Spectator.

The Lucknow Sentinel tells of a demonstration orchard leased by J. J. Anderson, M. P., in that district. Until this year the orchard never yielded a barrel of marketable fruit, but by proper spraying and cultivation its possibilities have been developed, and this year it will yield 75 barrels of the finest fruit. Mr. Anderson has a number of orchards under lease, all of which show surprising results. —London Free Press.

The Western Provinces of Canada are reporting a decrease in the taking up of homestead lands. This indicates that the first chapter in the book of Western Canada will soon be finished, and the second one will soon be begun. It is to be hoped that in the second chapter something will be said about the wisdom of mixed farming and the folly of robbing the soil of its native wealth, without compensation. The book will be longer if that is done. —Ottawa Citizen.

Women who want the vote—who demand equality with men, who break windows and so injure many a humble and hard working tradesman; who resort to arson and attempt murder, are not in a position to demand exclusive privileges when they behave as criminals. They should play the game better than that. One could even admire them if they showed real pluck, real courage. But this they could not do. Instead, when convicted and sentenced, they cry aloud of this man or that—"He told us to do it!" Once and for ever this sort of weak violence should be put down and out. —Kit in Canada Monthly.

There is no reason why a man who raises grain should assail the man who makes the machinery for harvesting grain. The two trades are necessary to each other. Nor is the Canadian who makes cloth out of wool the natural enemy of the man who raises wool, or the man who wears woollen clothing. As a matter of fact the Western farmer has no personal quarrel with the manufacturer. When they meet they are apt to be good friends. The alienation is itself largely a manufactured product. Orators, writers and political managers, interested in creating political hostility between the East and the West, are the artificers of this unpleasantness. —Vancouver News-Advertiser.

A great potato warfare is raging just now between Liberal and Conservative party organs in St. John and Fredericton, the Liberals claiming that farmers are getting only sixty cents for potatoes and the Conservatives quoting higher figures. We don't know the facts as they are in St. John and Fredericton, but we have ascertained, by actual inquiry of the stores where potatoes are sold in Chatham, that \$1.75 a barrel is the cheapest they can be bought for. The dealers say that they pay the farmers \$1.50 a barrel. So if the Telegraph or Mail will send a carload of their 60-cent potatoes on here they will be able to sell them at a good profit. —Chatham World.

Ottawa, Oct. 9.—The cabinet at the meeting today awarded heavy contracts for rolling stock for the Intercolonial. With one exception the various contracts were awarded to the Canadian Car and Foundry Co., of Montreal.

Those awarded to the company were 500 additional steel framed box cars, price \$1,210 each; 100 Hart convertible cars of 40 tons capacity; 100 steel underframed platform cars of 80,000 pounds capacity each, price \$1,070; 50 Otis all spring dump case 20 refrigerator cars, price \$2,058, 50 each; 18,000 gallon tank car, price \$2,659. In addition the Preston Car and Coach Co. of Preston, Ont. has been awarded the contract for three baggage cars for the I. C. R. at \$7,500 each.

It will be recalled that several large orders for box cars and locomotives have preceded today's announcement.

Caught Again.

Ottawa, Oct. 10.—About two months ago some stir was caused in western Canada by the publication in the Grain Growers Guide, of Winnipeg of a letter signed by the sales manager of the J. I. Case Threshing machine Co., of Racine, Wis. This firm makes certain kinds of agricultural machinery and the purport of the letter was that the present government had made a new ruling which had the effect of increasing the cost of these implements to the consumers. Liberal newspapers throughout the Dominion seized upon the letter to argue that the Borden government was surreptitiously increasing the tariff.

It was explained in this correspondence that this was not the case; that what had occurred was that the Case company itself had raised the price by a change in its system of discounts, and that the customs department on learning of this had simply applied a rule of long standing, established during the Liberal regime.

The Winnipeg representatives of the Case Company attempted to controvert this, and the Liberal press refused to accept this explanation. Denunciations of the Borden government were continued and severe.

The headquarters of the Case Company, however, have admitted that the explanation already given was accurate. It is learned here that under date of October 7th F. Lee Norton, treasurer of the company, has written to the Grain Growers Guide in which, after quoting the letter of the sales manager, he says:—

"We wish to inform you that neither Mr. Coleman nor any other person in the employ of our firm had any authority to issue said letter. In addition we desire to state that the statements contained therein are incorrect."

Representations have been made to us that the letter has been used to convey the impression that the present government has changed the tariff rate on agricultural machinery, and for this reason, and only this, we had advanced our prices. On our part we wish to remove this impression, and ask you to inform your readers that no change has been made in the tariff of agricultural implements by the present government. The tariff now in force is exactly the same in so far as threshing machines or any other agricultural machinery is concerned as it was for several years past.

For some years we sold machines in the United States and allowed a maximum discount of 20 per cent, and the Canadian customs based their duty on the price at which we were selling the goods in the United States, that is 20 per cent off the published list price. Some time ago we reduced these discounts to the trade from 20 per cent, to 10 per cent, and 8 per cent, for cash, or a maximum of 16 per cent, discount. When we did this we, of course, recognized that in shipping goods to Canada the law might compel us to pay duty on the new price made by us, only deducting the new discount instead of 20 per cent, which we formerly allowed.

The Canadian customs officials could not otherwise than collect duty on the price at which we sold the goods in the United States.

We therefore ask you to inform the public to this effect, as we feel that an injustice has been done to the Canadian government by the letter purporting to come from our firm, which was not authorized in any way by any one in authority, and which we deny as containing the facts, and which we repudiate as not only being unfair, but as coming from anyone who had any authority to write on behalf of our company.

This letter, of course, is a complete withdrawal of the charge.

Expensive Real Estate.

Montreal, Oct. 10.—For the property situated at the northwest corner of St. Francois Xavier and Notre Dame streets, the Montreal Trust Company paid \$164,145.38 this morning or almost \$68 per square foot for the block of 2609 square feet.

The same company paid \$390,000 on April 22 last for that part of the Boxer estate that is situated at the southwest corner of St. James and St. Francois Xavier streets, a price that figured out at \$74 per square foot for the corner. The block purchased by the Montreal Trust Company this morning is the remainder of the Boxer property, so that now the big block with frontages on St. James, St. Francois Xavier and Notre Dame streets is owned by one Company.



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 All the new popular close fitting styles in the celebrated W. G. & R. and Austrian brands.
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 Lots to select from.
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