

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, JULY 31, 1911

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JULY 31, 1911.

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THE EVENING TIMES
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

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IN THE PEOPLE'S HANDS

Parliament has been dissolved. The question at issue between the government and the opposition has been referred to the people. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has appealed from the obstructionist members of the commons to the people whose interests they all serve. The contest will be comparatively short, and the Liberal party never entered upon a campaign with greater confidence in their leader and their policy.

Reciprocity is the most important issue to be decided. The United States Congress has offered Canada an agreement which the Conservatives would have hailed with the utmost satisfaction had they ever been able to secure it, and the people of Canada are now asked to decide. It is a business proposition, to be considered from the business standpoint, but there is also the consideration that with reciprocity would come more friendly relations between these two countries, and between the United States and the mother country. This, in a time of international tension, is a condition to be desired, apart from the benefits of reciprocity itself.

So far as the maritime provinces are concerned, they have much to gain and nothing to lose by this agreement. Reciprocity would give a new impetus to the great basic industries of agriculture, lumbering and fishing, by offering them a larger free market than they at present possess. Our people have contributed cheerfully to the development of the west, and have been content with slower growth in the east because there seemed no help for it; but now they see an opportunity for expansion at home, and they will vote for reciprocity because it means expansion of trade and development of resources. The people of the New England states want what these provinces have to sell, and they will not offer any competition in our markets. These provinces will reap a great benefit from reciprocity, and the like is true of the whole country.

But the electors will also take note of the marvellous progress of Canada under Liberal rule, and express their appreciation of the leaders and the policy which have produced such results. Let us make a few comparisons between the years 1896 and 1911, to make the point clear:

1896	1911
Canadian imports \$18,011,508	\$472,194,246
Canadian exports 121,913,852	297,190,363

Total trade .. \$239,025,360 \$769,384,611

In 1896 there were 16,270 miles of railway in operation in Canada; in 1910 there were 24,731 miles. The gross earnings in 1896 were \$50,545,509; in 1910 they were \$173,906,217. The passengers carried in 1896 numbered 14,810,417; in 1910 they numbered 35,894,573. Freight carried increased from 24,266,825 tons to 74,482,860 tons. Receipts from freight traffic increased from \$32,368,082 to \$117,497,604; in passenger traffic from \$13,747,773 to \$46,018,880.

The number of post offices in Canada increased from 9103 in 1896 to 12,887 in 1910; and the revenue from \$4,005,891 to \$17,008,733.

Bank clearings increased from \$1,028,997,942 in 1896 to \$6,054,298,433 in 1910.

Taking up Canada's trade with the United Kingdom, it is found that the imports increased from \$32,824,505 in 1896 to \$109,861,371 in 1911. In the same period the exports increased from \$66,089,253 to \$137,196,571.

In the same period Canada's imports from the United States increased from \$33,329,330 to \$27,844,838; and her exports to the United States from \$36,421,168 to \$112,015,078.

It will be observed that there has been a great increase in Canada's trade with the United States, without any straining

of the ties of loyalty to the Empire. The further increase under reciprocity will have no greater tendency to disrupt the Empire than has the growth of former years.

Along with the growing prosperity of Canada has gone a movement drawing Canada closer to the rest of the empire.

On its general record and policy the government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier may appeal with confidence to the electors. The opposition, having no constructive policy to commend them to the people, have resorted to the trick of professing a belief that reciprocity will tend to annexation. At the same time they are in alliance with the Nationalists of Quebec, who are the only opponents of British connection the country has to reckon with, and who are now denouncing Sir Wilfrid Laurier for his imperialism.

The loyal people of Canada will not forget that it was Sir Wilfrid Laurier who gave the British preference, and who later told the people of the mother country that whatever trade agreements Canada might make with other countries the British preference is nailed to the masthead. Reciprocity will be good for the Empire, because it will be good for Canada.

NEW BRUNSWICK'S MINISTER

The Hon. William Pugsley comes back to the people of New Brunswick, as their representative in the government of Canada, with a splendid record of achievement as the minister of public works. From the moment he entered the cabinet he set out to familiarize himself not only with the field in which his department operates, but with the details of the work of the department itself. It was not long before he was in a position to give full information concerning public works, in progress and projected, in all parts of Canada. Realizing as perhaps few other public men have done the vital importance of transportation as a factor in Canadian development, he advocated in the cabinet and out of it a broad and comprehensive policy, covering the whole country. It was a national policy, having regard to the needs of the east and the west, the Atlantic and Pacific provinces, the lake region and the prairie region. It included the development of national ports, and his own constituency of St. John has reaped the benefit in the plan of harbor works, which will give an eastern as well as a western harbor, and make St. John an Atlantic terminus of three transcontinental railways. He has at the same time labored earnestly to secure the early construction of the St. John Valley Railway, which will benefit St. John and provide transportation facilities for a rich section of the province. The province generally has been well served in the matter of public works, and it is but fair to say that the head of his department Dr. Pugsley has done more for New Brunswick than any of his predecessors.

The minister has unfortunately been compelled to turn aside the shafts of malice and envy as well as to meet the ordinary and expected criticism of political opponents. There are already indications that the campaign of abuse will again be resorted to by some of his opponents, who find themselves unable to deny that he has carried out a progressive policy of vast benefit to his own constituency and the province at large. That method of fighting was adopted, however, in the last federal elections, with the result that only two Conservatives were returned. That party will meet the same or a worse fate in September.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's manifesto states the issue clearly. The people will now deal with the obstructionists.

Hon. J. D. Hazen was a warm advocate of reciprocity in 1891, and put himself on record.

The cruiser Niobe has met with a serious mishap, but not nearly so serious as the first reports seemed to indicate.

In his manifesto Leader Borden welcomes dissolution and also condemns it. It could not come too soon for him, and yet it should not have come quite so soon. Leader Borden is off with a bad start.

Dr. Daniel declares himself to be in a most cheerful mood and certain that the Conservatives "will score heavily against the Liberals." He was equally cheerful and certain in 1908 until the votes were counted and only he and Mr. Crockett survived the campaign.

The death of Sheriff Ritchie is a severe shock to the citizens. Mr. Ritchie was a distinguished family, a popular citizen, and a good official. He was eminently fair in the discharge of his duties, and commanded the respect of men of both political parties. He had many warm personal friends who sincerely mourn his death.

The fine tribute paid to Mr. F. B. Carvell by his fellow citizens of Woodstock on his return from the coronation was well deserved. Mr. Carvell brings the message that the mother country is not decadent, but prosperous and progressive, and declares that he is more impressed than ever before with the greatness of the Empire and more proud than ever to be a British subject.

IN LIGHTER VEIN



SO ACCOMMODATING
Tramp—Can you assist me along the road, mum?
Kind Lady—Personally, I cannot, but I will unchain my dog, and I know he will.



BADLY RECEIVED.
"I see that Spouter made his first appearance as an actor the other night. Did you attend the performance?"
"No, but I visited him at the hospital yesterday."

THE LIBERAL PARTY

HAS NEVER DOUBTED
CANADIAN LOYALTY

So Says the Plymouth, England, Mercury, Commenting on Speech by J. T. Hake of Moncton Who Set the British Tories Right on the Question of Reciprocity.

The Plymouth, England, Mercury of July 29th, contains an account of a banquet at which the mayors of Plymouth and Devonport the chairman of the Stonehouse district council and some fifty other leading citizens of the "Three towns" were present, and at which John T. Hake, of the Moncton, N. B. Transcript, was one of the speakers. The Mercury says:

"Mr. J. T. Hake, of Moncton N. B., says the Mercury, 'who was also called upon to respond, said that although he had been living in Canada for forty years, he looked upon Plymouth, by which he meant the Three Towns as being his home. He came home to witness the coronation festivities in London, and neither regretted the time nor the expenditure. It was his wish that the people of the Three Towns should have a similar opportunity. It was a week of thrills, and one of the most gratifying features of the spectacle was the sight of representatives from many of the distant parts of the greatest empire the world had ever seen. It was said there was a spirit of disloyalty growing up in Canada, but that was a slander upon the people of the Dominion. There was not a particle of truth in the statement. Whatever difference of political opinion existed in Canada, they stood on one common platform, and that was the platform of British loyalty. (Applause.) When Canada proceeded to make a reciprocity treaty with America she was acting the role of peace-maker, and they hoped thereby to strengthen the empire instead of weakening it."

In an editorial note the Mercury says of Mr. Hake's address:—
"Mr. Hake's vindication of Canadian loyalty left nothing to be desired. We hope Mr. Hake, on his return to his present home in New Brunswick, will let his friends and neighbors know whence the suspicion arose. The great Liberal party has never doubted Canadian loyalty. The contention of the Tariff Reformers that loyalty was a hollow measure affected by the course of trade has always been disputed by Liberals. We trust that the Tariff Reformers in Mr. Hake's old home will be reassured and comforted by the testimony of an old Plymouthian who has been forty years in Canada. In negotiating the reciprocity treaty with the United States, Canada was seeking to promote, not to weaken, the empire. Most that after such explicit statements we shall hear less about the empire falling to pieces because the tariffers are not allowed to have their own way. We hope we shall no longer hear of waning loyalty in Canada because we will not surrender the 'cheap' because we will not surrender the 'cheap' to the people. We heartily accept Mr. Hake's declaration that whatever the political differences in Canada, there is no difference of opinion in her allegiance to the throne nor in the love of her sons for the motherland, nor in their desire to maintain the integrity of the British Empire. We have long believed that it is the Tariffers who profess to doubt it."

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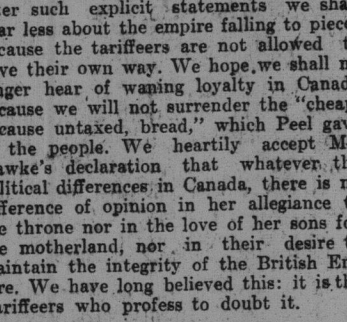
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