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SIR CHAS. A. CAMERON, M.D.

# Laurier's Speech

The Achievements of the Government Set Forth.

The Infamous Gerrymander To Be Repealed-The Issues of the Day Treated in a Masterly Manner.

Ottawa, March 22.-The speech made yesterday by Sir Wilfrid Laurier was one of the best, if not the very best, he has ever delivered in parliament. It was eloquent, luminous, clear, aggressive, and marked by flashes of humor and satire that roused the frequent enthusiasm of his friends and brought the flush of anger to the faces of his opponents. The truth is that ever since the Liberal Government took office they have been defamed, misrepresented, pelted with abuse and ridicule, and subjected generally to such treatment as was never before dealt out to a Canadian Government. Sir Wilfrid Laurier showed yesterday that he could carry the war into the ranks of the apposition, and that he was well able to defend his administration against the bluster, audacity and misrepresen-tation of Sir Charles Tupper and his associates. It was time that the hue and cry of the Tupper partisans was checked, and the task was done most effectually by the prime minister. It was a sturdy, manly speech, a speech perfect in its plan and statesmanlike in its purpose.

It was noticeable that while Sir Wil-

frid Laurier spoke almost every seat In the house was occupied, that the galleries were crowded, and that no member left the chamber during his speech, while Mr. Foster during most of the time he had the floor spoke to half-filled galleries, and not half of the Conservative members were in their places. The speech of the prime minister had a distinctly depressing effect upon the opposition.

TUPPER'S PROLIXITY.

When the premier rose to reply to the speech of Sir Charles Tupper he was greeted with tremendous applause from the ministerial benches, and it was some time before quiet was sufficiently restored for Sir Wilfrid to The premier administered a etinging rebuke to Sir Charles for tak-ing up so much of the house's time the day before. Said Sir Wilfrid: "There is no rule of this house, no law of man, to prevent redundancy and prolixity. Human nature can only suffer in silence; but if it be true that a day must come some time when every man has to account for every vain, idle and useless word spoken by him, I pity the fate of the honorable gentleman. The honorable gentleman spoke at great length. I do not mean to say that he said much. On the contrary, and in so saying I place myself in the judgment of every member of this house, that in that deluge of words there were more adjectives than ideas, more scolding than argument; and if I were to characterize the speech of the honorable gentleman, I think I was nothing but the vaporing of a much-disappointed man, seeking wide and far in order, if possible, to find a weak point in the armor of his opponents where he could plant a deadly blow. Looking at my honorable friend yesterday, and listening to him, I could not but be reminded of the old blind King of Bohemia on the battlefield, who was valiant, no doubt, but blind. and who rushed about striking right and left, but doing no harm to anybody but himself. Sir, notwithstanding my honorable friend's effort to be vicious, I may be permitted to pay him a compliment. There are many things to admire in him; but I admire his juvenile ardor, I admire his valor, but I cannot admire his logic, discretion or judgment. And, therefore, as his words were not the outcome of sound judgment, they cannot be more effective here than they were in West

My honorable friend is like the Bourbons-he has learned nothing and he has forgotten nothing. Certainly he has not forgotten his own speeches, because the speech of yesterday I have heard to my certain knowledge three or four, if not five, times already, even to the quotation from Mr. David A. Wells."

AN IDLE BOAST. In reply to Sir Charles Tupper's statement that the Liberal party had done nothing for Canada, Sir Wilfrid said.

"Speaking of the administration, Sir Charles Tupper said we had done nothing whatever, and that in everything we had done we had shown utter and complete incapacity. Well, sir, I will be more courteous to the honorable gentleman. I accept his challenge, but I will be more courteous to him than he was to me. I will not charge him with utter and complete incapacity, I will say, on the contrary, that the honorable gentleman is an extraordinary man, a most marvelous man, a most unique man-for conceit, for vigorous talking, for waving his oratorical sword, for pulverizing his opponents, that the honorable gentleman never had his equal since the days of ancient Pistol, and I do not believe that even Pistol himself would do better than hold second place to him. But it is evident the honorable gentleman does not look at things from the common level of ordinary mortals; he does not look at things from the level of simple reason, but from the mighty altitude to which he has upraised his gigantic but which he has upraised his gigantic but childish vanity. From that altitude he once proclaimed to the world that he had made Canada. Why, there are men on the other side of the house who believed that Sir John Macdonald had something to do with making Canada, who believed that George Brown also contributed his share, who believed that George Etienne Cartier, was also instrumental in this great work. But the honorable gentleman dismisses them all with the wave of his hand, and from the altitude he has assumed, he says: 'I made Canada!' And from the same altitude he says, 'These gentlemen on the other side are incapable,' and there is as much truth in the one statement as in the other; people smile at one as they smile at the other."

"I am not in the habit-I think I can claim that, at all events, if nothing else-of blowing my own trumpet or of sounding my own praises. Though I do not admit my utter incapacity, yet I proclaim the capacity of the honorable gentleman more than he himself proclaims it. in one thing,

Tupper.

The Opposition Leader Scathingly
Rebuked.

Sir Wilfrid cited the settlement of the Manitoba school question, the inauguration of the imperial and domestic penny postage, the reform of the tariff, the perfecting of cold storage, the extension of the Intercolonial to Montreal, and the reduction of C. P. R. freights by which the people of the freights by which the people of the Northwest saved \$500,000 a year, as among the achievements of the Liberal Government. On the prohibition question Sir Wilfrid said: "The government have broken no pledge to the prohibitionists, because the prohibitionists themselves never made any demand." Sir Wilfrid said there never was a man who expected at the time the plebiscite was taken that there would be the duty imposed on the government of introducing a prohibitory measure unless at least one-half of the electorate recorded their votes in the electorate recorded their votes in favor of that policy. He quoted Rev. Dr. Potts, Rev. Mr. Patterson, secretary of the Canadian Temperance League, who all declared the vote did not warrant the introduction of pro-

SENATE REFORM.

Speaking of the "reform" of the sen-ate, he said that the resolutions would be submitted to the senate, as well as the commons. It was not intended to destroy confederation, nor to abolish the senate, but to improve the senate and perfect federation. The senate as at present constituted was an anomaly, ss it was not responsible to either the erown or the people, and, far from wanting to abolish it, he wanted to im-

THE INFAMOUS GERRYMANDER. Speaking of the proposed redistribution of constituencies, the premier said: "He (Sir Charles Tupper) condemns it in advance, because to him, I regret to say, and to his party the word redis-

tribution means gerrymander. There is a sinister import in the very word. Again, I say to my honorable friend that he may possess his soul in patience. He said we wanted to play with loaded dice. No; our effort is to unload the dice. (Cheers.) Who loaded the dice, I want to know? Who loaded the dice with the infamous franchise act? Who loaded the dice with the still more infamous redistribution bill? Who carved the province of Ontario into monu-ments of shapeless deformity to the eye, and of even greater deformity to every instinct of right and justice? Sir, the honorable gentleman asked me yesterday where was our constitutional power to pass the act we proposed. I answer the constitutional power of the House of Commons to undo every wrong and to give justice to those who have suffered wrong. (Hear, hear.) We do not propose, assuredly, to increase the number of members of the house, but it is our aim and purpose to undo the great wrong, the supreme injustice, which was done against the liberties of the people in 1882. (Cheers.) Let me say to the honorable gentleman that I should be ashamed of myself if we were to follow in the path trodden by him-self and his friends. We do not want any loaded dice; what we want is to have fair play for them as well as for us. We are here in the consciousness of our strength, and, so help me God, would not be too severe in saying it I think we shall have that strength in the hearts of the people, but never by such methods as were resorted to by the honorable gentleman. (Cheers.)

OCEAN PROJECTS. With reference to the fast Atlantic service, he admitted the government had done nothing, but he hoped it would be able to do something some-

As to the Pacific cable he promised that an announcement would be made shortly.

THE WASHINGTON COMMISSION. Next he took up the Washington commission, and defended the commission from the charges made against it of taking a very long time to do very little. "We had ten or twelve subjects to deal with; we had the Atlantic fisheries for one, the Bering Sea fisheries for another, the Alaska boundary for another, the bonding privileges for another, the reciprocity question for another, the alien labor law for another, the inland water fisheries for another, and two or three more which I forget at this moment. Having to deliberate upon all these subjects within six months, it seems to me that we had not any too much time. But that is not all; we were much delayed by various circumstances; for instance, the untimely sickness and death of Mr.

Dingley."
Sir Wilfrid paid eloquent tributes to the late William Dingley and to Lord Hehschell. Of the latter he said: "I was grieved to see in some Can-adian newspapers last fall the statement that Lord Herschell was trying to settle some of the questions at issue by a sacrifice of Canadian in-terests. Sir, there never was a more false statement made in the press, and I hope the Canadian newspapers will at once endeavor to repair the evil which they have done in this respect and to proclaim, as I have a right to do, speaking from knowledge Lord Herschell, that he thought Canada not only with enthusiasm but with conviction and devotion." Sir Wilfrid reviewed the history the 1891 electoral campaign, quoting Mr. Blaine (the secretary of state of

SAMERRAGE AND ASSESSED OF THE SECOND

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the United States) to Sir Julian Pauncefote, and a letter to Sir John Macdonald from Sir Charles Tu er, who was then at Washington, showing that the Conservative Government was at that time attempting to negotiate a treaty with the United States, the initiative in the matter having been taken by Canada.

A SPLENDID PERORATION. In concluding Sir Wilfrid said: Now, sir, I have nothing more to do at present. I have done; but before I close I must express my gratitude to the hon, gentleman that in this last speech which he has delivered he has shown himself once more, and perhaps more than ever, as he is-reckless, extravagant, unreliable, ever ready to pander to passion and prejudice, ever ready to gamble away the most sacred interests of this country for the chance of a party advantage. As to us, who have now been in office less than three years, upon our record, such as it is, I claim we can appeal with some degree of confidence not only to the impartial judgment of history, but to the fair verdict of men now living. I do not claim that we have been free from imperfection or infirmity, but I do claim that we have done some lasting service to this country - service which will live in the hearts and minds of the people, and which will still bear fruit a long time after the last of us has lain down in the grave. Sir, I claim this, and I claim it with some degree of confidence. We have closed an era, painful and dangerous in the history of our country; we have healed some burning sores which were fast eating into the very hearts of our people; we have brought harmony and peace where discord had long reigned; we have reconciled men long estranged by bitter strife; we have taught them to have confidence in themselves and one another, and, above all things,

we have taught them to have faith, and an abiding faith in the institutions under which we have the honor to live. This further I claim, we have closed an area and have opened another in the history of the trade relations of the empire. We have removed from our limbs the shackles which were impediments to freer trade within the broad domains of our empire, and the policy we have thus introduced we shall pursue with care and confidence, and without undue haste, and with an ever-vigilent eye, and determination and courage to move and to-act at the proper time and the proper season. (Loud and long continued applause.) MR. FOSTER REPLIES.

Mr. Foster replied to the premier. He attacked the preferential tariff, saying it had not turned the tide in Britain's Opinion was divided on the benefit of imperial penny postage. It was a boon to those whose business could have carried the burden of the old rate, but the difference would be made up by the poorer classes. The Liberals had not carried out their tariff reform The tariff was a protective one, and showed only a slight decrease of texation by customs. Mr. Oliver and

Mr. Richardson, both Manitoba Liberal M. P.s, called upon the government to redeem its pledges of tariff reform, while Mr. Sifton had called the tariff list had been only decreased from 486 given out: a dead issue. The items on the dutiable to 462; out of 175 items bearing specific duties in the old tariff, 147 remain in the new. The amount of customs taxation was \$19,800,000 in 1896, and over \$22,000,000 in 1898. This year it would be \$6,000,000 more than in 1896. Our total trade with England in 1897-98 had increased only \$800,000, compared with 1895-96, while with the United States it had increased by \$31,000,000. The government was going to prevent monopolies, but under its nose the Standard Oil Company had fastened its grip on the coal oil resources of the Dominion. The tinkered tariff had closed down some industries and opened up no new ones. Its real weakness would be shown in the test time of adversity. The preceding and not the present government should have the credit for introducing cold storage. Mr. Foster defended the action of the senate in throwing out the Drummond railway deal, by which he claimed the country had saved a million dollars by the revision of the bargain. The reduction of freight rates by the C. P. R. was no occasion for the government to boast, as the C. P. R. had resolved to reduce the rates before the government gave them two millions more to build the Crow's Nest Pass Railway. Mr. Fos-ter ridiculed the government for its alleged bungling in the fast Atlantic steamship matter. He twitted Sir Wilfrid Laurier for saying there was no desire in Canada for reciprocity with the United States. The Liberal leaders had for years contended that reciprocity was indispensable to the welfare of this country. They had given to the United States free corn, free binder twine, and other advantages, so that they went to Washington with nothing to offer the United States. The speaker denied that the increased expenditure was caused by the deepening of the canals, for the canals were three-quar-ters finished when the government came into power. He charged Sir Wilfrid Laurier with breaking faith with

the prohibitionists. Sir Richard Cartwright spoke briefly, and moved the adjournment of the de-bate, which he will continue today.

A CLASH

Between the Salvation Army and Volunteers at Chicago.

Chicago, March 22.-The recent clash between the Salvation Army and Volunteers during a street parade of the latter, and headed by General Balling-ton Booth, has resulted in a deal of trouble between the two organizations. The showing by magic lantern of a deathbed picture of Ballington Booth's

mother at the moment of General Ballington Booth's appearance, has caused much bitterness, and Lt a council of the general officers of the Volunteers, the following statement was

"We, the undersigned, 77 staff and field commanding officers, assembled in the regimental council, desire to express our opinion that, while it will be generally conceded by the many friends and associates of the Volunteers that General and Mrs. Ballington Booth have acted with discretion in withholding from the press and platform their feelings respecting the recent actions of the Salvation Army, both wishing to avoid any resurrection of public controversy, yet, that injustice to our many Volunteers and friends in and around Chicago, and in contradiction of certain statements, It is only right and fair that we should express our admiration of the Christian spirit exhibited by the Volunteers in the face of manifestations of the unchristian and unamerican spirit on the part of

the Salvationists yesterday.
"We were having a peaceable parade, witnessed by hundreds of people, when we were grieved and shocked to witness the action of certain officers of the Salvation army. General Booth's mother's picture was put on the screen just as he passes, purposely to create the impression that he made vows to the Salvation Army at her death bed when, as we all know, at the time of her death he was in Maryland, United States of America. Further in the presence of our leader, General Booth, Brigadier General Fielding, Colonel James Keppel and others, one Salvation army staff officer said, with a hiss through his teeth, 'Hurrah for Major Moore's army,' a name associated with a reputed scandal. Another member shouted, shaking his fist in our faces, 'You devils, you," while a third, who was also an officer, pointing to the picture on the screen, said: 'Look at them, how can they do it, when you made vows at your mother's bed?" "We take this as an insult to our

leader and our visiting officers to the city of Chicago, and feel that as citizens we have a right to demand a public apology from Lieut.-Col. French, as it is a distinct breach of the contract made between General Ballington Booth and his father, General William Booth.

"It is such actions as these which have brought from the Salvation Arm to the Volunteers during the last few weeks, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Keppel, Brigadier and Mrs.Marshall, Staff-Captain Thomas, Adjutant and Mrs. Johnson, Staff-Captain and Mrs. Leech, Adjutant Fryer, Major Lenox, Captain, and Mrs. Beedy, Captain and Mrs. Turk, Captain Tamming and many others

whom we could name. "Furthermore, that this statement be tendered to the Associated Press. "Signed by the Staff and Field Offi-

There are about 350 temale black