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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 1912.

THE VINDICATION.

Correspondence between President Taft and Mr. Roosevelt disclosing their private views on the Reciprocity Agreement is now on exhibition; not because either was particularly anxious to give his private opinions to the world but because the exigencies of the struggle to secure the Republican nomination and the keenness of the fight between the two Republican factions compelled Mr. Taft to demonstrate his single-hearted devotion to a policy which he believed, and doubtless still believes, would make for the upbuilding and advancement of his own country, the United States. The correspondence, in so far as it discloses the ultimate motives of Mr. Taft for the subjugation of Canada to the United States, is a complete vindication of the policy of the Conservative party in voting against the Agreement. No better evidence could be produced to disclose the pitfall from which the Dominion escaped than the written statement of the President of the United States.

In January of last year, some ten days before Mr. Taft concluded the negotiations for the Reciprocity Agreement with the representatives of the Laurier Government, he was moved to confide his hopes and aspirations therefrom to his dear friend Roosevelt in a private letter. The most significant paragraph in this correspondence has reference to the ultimate results for which Mr. Taft looked. He writes:

"It might at first have a tendency to reduce the cost of food products somewhat; it would certainly make the reservoir much greater and prevent fluctuations. MEANTIME THE AMOUNT OF CANADIAN PRODUCTS WE WOULD TAKE WOULD PRODUCE A CURRENT OF BUSINESS BETWEEN WESTERN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES THAT WOULD MAKE CANADA ONLY AN ADJUNCT OF THE UNITED STATES. IT WOULD TRANSFER ALL THEIR IMPORTANT BUSINESS TO CHICAGO AND NEW YORK, WITH THEIR BANK CREDITS AND EVERYTHING ELSE, AND IT WOULD INCREASE GREATLY THE DEMAND OF CANADA FOR OUR MANUFACTURES."

No equivocation about that. Canada was to become in effect a State of the Union. Her business interests were to be centered in Chicago and New York; her bank credits and "everything else" in the way of business that she possessed were in course of time to be transferred to the centres of trade and commerce in the United States. That was Mr. Taft's programme. That was the underlying motive in the Reciprocity Agreement which the two deluded pilgrims to Washington never saw—to make Canada subservient in her business interests to the Republic.

With a candor which today Canadians with thoroughly appreciate, Mr. Taft adds: "This, I see, is an argument against Reciprocity in Canada, and I think it is a good one." It was good, and it made good to the last credit and foresight of the Canadian people. There was no warning more constantly uttered by the opponents of Reciprocity throughout the campaign than the danger which threatened from entangling alliances. Canada was in very truth at the "parting of the ways" in her choice between becoming "an adjunct of the United States," to quote Mr. Taft, or an equal partner within the Empire in her commercial relations with the Mother Country.

Another significant statement in Mr. Taft's letter is the carefully prepared plan he discloses to secure the passing of the measure through both Houses of Congress, and the bait which was thrown out to secure the support of the United States press. He writes:

"The proposition is to make an arrangement by which we shall present to both Houses of Congress an identical bill and pass it as an agreement for joint legislation. In this way we would avoid the necessity for two-thirds in the Senate and would secure at once the consent of the House, which in tariff matters is generally regarded as necessary, at any rate. This will cause a great commotion, I presume. It will be unpopular in New York because of the lumber manufacturing interests. It will be unpopular in Minnesota because of wheat; but on the other hand, free lumber will be popular in some places, and AS IT INCLUDES FREE PAPER AND FREE WOOD PULP, WE MAY COUNT ON THE FAIRLY GOOD SUPPORT OF THE PRESS."

Mr. Taft had every reason to be satisfied with the enthusiasm with which the Agreement was greeted and cordially supported by the newspapers of the country. As a reward for these services rendered the free pulp and paper clause in the Agreement remains today on the Statute books, the sole relic of all that he expected but failed to accomplish.

"I shall be glad to hear from you," writes Mr. Taft to Mr. Roosevelt in conclusion, "as soon as you conveniently can write on this subject, because the matter is just at hand, and it is quite likely that within ten days we shall reach an agreement." Mr. Roosevelt's reply was brief but quite to the point. He was "delighted" at the glowing picture of Canada as "an adjunct of the United States" and all that it implied. "I firmly believe," he writes, "in free trade with Canada for both economic and POLITICAL reasons." He adds: "Whether Canada will accept such Reciprocity, I do not know, but it is greatly to your credit to make the effort. It may damage the Republic partly for a while, but it will surely benefit the party in the end, especially if you tackle wool, cotton, etc., as you propose."

Judging by present indications the most damaging feature of the whole business is the correspondence. What effect these disclosures may have in the United States is of no great concern on this side of the border. Canadians will know and realize with satisfaction today that Reciprocity, as far as the Dominion and the United States are concerned, is dead and buried. Mr. Taft and Mr. Roosevelt, however, have driven the last nail in the coffin. Canada has a greater future before her than in an entangling alliance with a foreign country, however friendly and intimate the relations with that country may be. A trade agreement with the Mother Country is but one bright prospect of the future; trade agreements with the Sister Nations of the Empire are being negotiated today. A trade agreement, with a string to it, to make Canada "an adjunct of the United States," is not and never will be on the programme of this Dominion as long as loyalty to the flag and Empire shapes its destiny.

A FIRST INSTALLMENT.

A striking example of the advantages of Protection is confronting Free Trade advocates in England in the operation of a clause in the Patents Act of 1907, which provides that British patents taken out by foreigners must be bona fide worked in Great Britain to an adequate extent. The advantages of the clause were strongly urged upon Chambers of Commerce for many years by Sir Joseph Lawrence and Mr. Levenstein, two Tariff Reformers, and finally at the instance of the Chamber of Commerce a bill was introduced into Parliament by Mr. Lloyd George in 1907, embodying this provision, and carried.

To make the situation clear the origin of the patent laws of England must be recalled. The ground upon which patents were granted in the days of Queen Elizabeth, was that they brought a new industry into the realm and provided employment for Her Majesty's subjects. In process of time this condition fell into desuetude, until, in recent years, as many as 8,000 British patents granting monopolies to foreigners have been issued from the Patent Office. England in this way has been deprived of many industries, some of which, as for instance the aniline dye discovery, were originated by Englishmen; and the result has been a decline in many branches of British trade. Under the operation of the Patents Act of 1907 this objectionable Free Trade feature has been removed. It has had a stimulating effect in establishing new industries. The foreign owner must now work his patent in the United Kingdom within four years from the date of the grant or it is liable to be forfeited.

The signal illustration of the benefits of this act in the protection and development of home industries is shown in the prospectus recently issued in London of the Diesel Engine Manufacturers, Limited, and the Burmeister and Wain Oil Engine Company. The capital of the former is £750,000 and of the latter £550,000. Both industries are chiefly dependent on patents, several of which have been granted since the passage of the Act of 1907. The former company is formed to acquire control of the businesses of the Diesel Engine Company, Limited, and of Messrs. Usines Carols Freres of Ghent, Belgium, and to build and equip new works in England for the manufacture of Diesel engines. The works are to be located near Ipswich. The firm of Messrs. Carols make no secret of the fact that they are starting manufacturing in England not only to comply with the Patents Act but in anticipation of a policy of Protection in the near future.

A similar course to that of the Diesel Engine Company and Messrs. Carols has been taken by Burmeister and Wain, engineers and shipbuilders of Copenhagen, the builders of the great oil-driven ship the "Selandia." Their three chief patents, taken out in Great Britain, were in 1910 and 1911 and naturally fall within the scope of the act. This firm has been formed to erect large works in the Old Country for the manufacture of oil engines. An option of a site on the banks of the Clyde has been secured.

There is no getting away from the lesson these trade movements in the Old Country present. The Patent Act of 1907 exemplifies, in so far as its provisions will allow, the advantages of a policy of Protection. The establishment of these two great industries in England and Scotland means more work and wages for the British workmen. If this small instalment of Tariff Reform is productive of such good results what will not the full policy accomplish? Slowly but surely the people in the Old Country are coming to see it.

The Times is clearly much perturbed over the revelations in the Taft-Roosevelt correspondence but endeavors to make light of the distressing situation. "The Canadian people," it says indignantly, "are quite able to take care of their loyalty under all circumstances. No one has ever doubted the loyalty of the Canadian people; but it would be a peculiar brand of loyalty, we should imagine, that would further the designs of Mr. Taft by entering into an agreement which he avows is to make Canada 'an adjunct of the United States.'"

Current Comment

(Boston American.)

But the lesson of disaster will be in vain unless all the ocean liners are equipped with a new and better kind of lifeboat than any used in the past. John Hyslop, venerable sailor, yacht owner and nautical writer, tells the public that the captains of many ocean liners have told him that the lifeboats on most of the liners are antiquated and ineffective—the davits unworkable, the appliances for launching defective, and many captains have told him that were their ships to sink they would rather trust to a plank than hope to save themselves in the average lifeboat of today.

(Hamilton Spectator.)

The first trial of the commission form of civic government is to be in St. John, New Brunswick. Under a commission of five members just elected—the mayor and four others—each commissioner will head one of the city departments, allotment of offices being arranged between themselves. There is not as much to be gained by the adoption of the commission form of government in Canadian cities as in American, but even here it may win its way. The St. John experiment will be watched with the greatest interest by publicists throughout the Dominion.

(North Battleford Optimist.)

There is every indication that Premier Scott is retiring from the hopeless fight which the Liberals are now into, and it is pretty generally understood that he has given way to Calder, who is left to battle as leader for the depleted Liberal forces in the Province. It is rumored that he is only waiting until a more favorable time to make the announcement that Calder is the official leader.

(Quebec Chronicle.)

Canada will mourn the loss of Mr. C. M. Hays and will miss his marvelous organizing ability, his quiet strength and persistence. It is sixteen years ago since he began his connection with the Grand Trunk and the good work which he did in building up that system has been of inestimable benefit to Canada, even though the extent of it is not by any means realized as yet.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

A contemporary points out that the bill for the disestablishment of the Church of England in Wales has been introduced, and declares that "Asquith keeps his word." He is more interested in keeping his job.

(Minneapolis Journal.)

The United States treasury has installed two machines to wash and iron the paper money. Some of that tainted stuff should be run through first.

(Toronto News.)

So far as observation warrants, the lion has not yet begun to lie down with the lamb, but assuredly the lamb is lying down with the lion's mane.

(Hamilton Herald.)

These are the days of big things, but there is likely to be a reaction from the craze for big ships.

(Vancouver News-Advertiser.)

So far as records go there were no advocates of equal rights on board the Titanic in her last hours.

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PROGRESS SHOWN IN CITY'S ASSESSMENT

Considerable Increase During Year in Assessed Valuation of Real and Personal Property in City.

The city assessment for 1912, which has been completed by the Board of Assessors, indicates that the city has made considerable progress during the past year. The valuation of real estate is placed at \$16,514,400, as against \$16,516,000 for the preceding year; personal estate at \$9,425,500 as against \$9,179,200; and incomes at \$4,884,800 as against \$4,147,100. The total of the valuations for 1912 is \$30,824,800 as against \$29,842,300 for 1911.

The tax levy for this year will be \$660,729 as against \$637,760 for last year. The tax rate this year is \$1.86 as compared with \$1.84 for 1911; \$1.98 in 1910 and 1909; and \$1.96 in 1908.

The assessors reported an increase of 297 in the number of ratepayers, which is a larger increase than usual. The number of ratepayers on the list is 12,424.

In the last four years the valuations of real estate, personal property and incomes have increased \$1,955,900. The assessors have taken no account of the increases in the values of real estate reported in the newspapers.

VALEDICTORIES DELIVERED BY SAFETY BOARD

Continued from page 2

John P. Coughle, assignee of Mr. Stuchkov, was granted a renewal lease of lots Nos. 1080 and 1081 on St. James street, Brooks ward.

Other Matters.

Police Officer H. C. Gardiner was granted half pay for 3 days lost on account of sickness.

Officer McNamee was granted full pay for the month of being laid up as a result of injuries received while on duty.

Officer George Henry was granted half pay for 7 days lost through sickness.

Hugh McGill was granted a renewal lease of lot No. 68, City Line, in Brooks ward.

Geo. S. Cushing offered to purchase lots 20 and 21 Lancaster, formerly held by Mr. Clarke.

It was decided to offer Mr. Cushing the lots for \$200 apiece.

J. T. McDowan, captain of No. 5 Battery, applied for leave to use the public hall, Carleton, for drill purposes.

Ald. Potts moved that permission be granted free of charge.

Ald. C. T. Jones said the city should get something out of the government. He moved that a charge of \$50 be made.

This was voted down, and Ald. Potts' motion carried.

Amelia Duffy was granted a renewal lease of 571, Brooks ward.

Ald. Elliott moved that No. 2 engine house be painted; he thought \$50 would suffice.

The director said there was no appropriation for the purpose.

Ald. Elliott's motion was adopted.

Ald. Potts moved that Ald. Scully should be paid the salary he is entitled to as a councillor.

A recommendation to the same effect was recently turned down by the council.

The Police Uniforms.

The chairman asked when the police uniforms were ready.

The director Mr. Pidgeon has not delivered the cloth yet.

The director was urged to hurry up the cloth.

Ald. Elliott moved that Arthur Delaney who recently retired from the fire department after 23 years' service be given three months' pay.

Chief Kerr said Mr. Delaney deserved some recognition, as he had done good work.

Ald. McLeod said he was heartily in accord with the motion, but he thought others who had given 20 years or more of hazardous service should be similarly treated. He moved that all members of the fire department who have given 20 years' service and have retired within the last five years, be given some recognition.

This was turned down and Ald. Elliott's motion was adopted.

West End Fire Protection.

Ald. McLeod moved that tenders be called for a hook and ladder wagon for the West side, and this was adopted.

Money for the purpose was placed in the estimates.

Chief Kerr said there was need of extra wheels for the hose carts.

The chairman—You don't need what a lively time I've had with the controller this year.

The chief—It's not my fault. If the money is not in the estimates.

Ald. C. T. Jones moved that an arch be installed at the corner of Dock street and Market Square, and this was adopted.

Tungsten light be placed in Morgan's alley, and this was approved.

Chief Kerr expressed his thanks to the retiring board for the kind manner in which he had been treated, and hoped the new commission would transact business as well.

Chairman Russell extended his thanks to the members of the board, the common clerk, director, and members of the press, whom, he said, had treated him with fairness and courtesy.

The mayor said Ald. Russell had filled the position of chairman as acceptably as any man in his experience.

Commissioner Wigmore testified to the courtesy and consideration shown him by the chairman and board.

Ald. C. T. Jones said he had enjoyed his year in the council and added his testimony.

Ald. McLeod, Potts, Elliott and J. J. Jones made little speeches appropriate to the occasion.

Director Wasey, who has been nearly 25 years at the board, handed out some bouquets.

The board then adjourned.


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OBITUARY.

Mrs. J. D. Short.

Mrs. J. D. Short, widow of the late J. D. Short, passed away yesterday morning at her late residence, 65 Garfield street. During the last few weeks the deceased was in a poor state of health, but her death was not expected. Thursday at 3 o'clock. Annual election of officers.

Ladies to Meet.

The Ladies' Committee will meet at the Protestant Orphans' Home on Thursday at 3 o'clock. Annual election of officers.

family and friends. The late Mrs. Short was in the 82nd year of her age and is survived by two brothers and one sister. Several grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services will be held at 2 o'clock on Friday at the Protestant Orphans' Home.

Interment at the cemetery.

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