

The Evening Times-Star

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ST. JOHN, N.B., SEPTEMBER 22, 1924

THE MARITIMES.

The Toronto Globe is interested in an assertion made by a writer in the Halifax Herald to the effect that the tariff does not protect Maritime industries, because they cannot compete with mass production in the large industrial centres of Ontario and Quebec.

The writer in the Herald said: "It must be manifest that Nova Scotia cannot have any large number of industries to provide employment and create a market for farm and other products under Canada's present economic system and excessive transportation charges, for while the seacoast is open and our markets are flooded by the mass production of the central provinces, where industry, banking and commerce have centred under the present national system."

This writer also pointed out that the central provinces cannot or will not buy our products. They do not buy our lumber, our agricultural or dairy products, which we must market elsewhere. The tariff is made to suit the great manufacturing centres.

"This," says the Globe, "is a side of the question which has received comparatively little attention. In the arguments between protectionists and free traders the comparison is always made between domestic and foreign or external products. The effect of tariff policy upon the location and distribution of manufacturing industry within the country is not often considered, but it is worthy of study."

The Globe denies that the other provinces as well as the states are different to the Maritime Provinces. It says their attitude is rather one of anxiety and perplexity. Continuing, it says:

"The position is a difficult one, and the framing of a policy which would promote the interests of the Maritime Provinces and the rest of Canada is no easy task. There is probably in Ontario a certain lack, not of interest, but of understanding of the Maritime problem. Some time ago it was proposed that a delegation from the Maritime Provinces should visit Ontario. We are sure that representatives from the East would be welcomed here and would receive a good hearing. Agitation within the Maritime Provinces alone can accomplish little, and even discussion in Parliament is not sufficient. The Maritime people who are voicing Maritime discontent should meet audiences of business men and others in Ontario and Quebec."

When Ontario and Quebec wanted to get these provinces into confederation to solve their own otherwise insoluble problem they did not wait for Maritime delegations. Their delegations came here, with pledges and assurances which finally led our statesmen to abandon Maritime union for the larger scheme. We entered the confederation in good faith. We have suffered ever since. There is no use in blinking the fact. We are grievously disappointed, and have good reason for the belief that the other provinces are not deeply concerned with anything beyond selling their products in this market. There is not and will not be a Canadian national spirit down here until there is something more than an occasional friendly gesture in this direction.

MR. FIELDING'S HONOR.

Referring to the suggestion that Parliament should vote an honorarium or annuity to Hon. W. S. Fielding, the Montreal correspondent of the Financial Post says it has the approval of important business and financial men in that city, and adds:

"It is recognized that Mr. Fielding has given to Canada a life time of sincere, honest public service; so sincere and honest that he has remained a poor man. Not only has he refused to allow his public life to benefit him financially, but he has given to the country time and energy that might have gone for his personal advancement. It was his overwork that has shattered his health. It is felt that Canada in return should assure the aged minister of comfort and freedom from worry for the rest of his life."

The same correspondent records a bit of history that will be read with very great interest and satisfaction by friends of the venerable statesman. It is as follows:

"Mr. Fielding's career has never been free from temptations to gain. When one of the big industrial mergers was being put through in Nova Scotia during his premiership he put through bills that benefited certain groups to a very great extent. At one time he called together a special session of the Legislature to give special concessions regarding taxes, royalties, charters, etc., to one of these mergers. The American promoters, when they had achieved their end, had a session with Mr. Fielding to determine what should be his share of the stock distribution. He was visibly furious with the suggestion and amazed them by declining to be rewarded directly or indirectly in any way, saying that he had had in mind only the industrial prosperity of his province in what he had done. Then the promoters stated that they felt

they should at least pay for the cost of the special meeting of the Provincial House. Mr. Fielding declined to allow this either, on the ground that it would lay him open to suspicion."

THE VOCATIONAL SCHOOL.

Calgary has a well-equipped vocational school, styled the Institute of Technology. Of its courses and its work the Calgary Herald says:

"The purposes of these courses is to provide training for boys and young men who intend to enter industrial employment, but it will be noted that they aim at giving a thorough course in the essential elements of a good academic education as well as to develop manual skill. If it were not for the substantial grants given by the authority of the Dominion Technical Education Act the scope of the operations carried on by the Technical Institute here would be much more restricted than it is. Statistics are available showing that 90 per cent. of those who leave the high schools are engaged ten years later in earning their living with their hands. To this 90 per cent. the schools would give the best service by courses that combine the academic and the vocational. To them a technical education is almost a necessity. This type of education appeals, or should appeal, to the boy who must leave school as soon as the age limit is passed, to the boy who is mechanically inclined, to the boy who is looking forward to an engineering course, and to the many whose future life will lie in the industrial world."

It is to serve exactly the same purpose that the vocational school is to be erected in St. John. It will receive aid from the same source. It will meet the needs of the ninety per cent. or more of pupils who do not now finish the high school course, the great majority of them not even entering the high school. It will round out the educational system of the city and confer a lasting benefit on future generations of children of St. John.

Of Miss Margaret Bondfield, M. P., who is to visit St. John and will undoubtedly receive a warm welcome, an exchange says: "Miss Bondfield is one of those splendid British women who have allied themselves with the labor movement and who have qualified themselves to sit in the House of Commons by years of devoted service to their fellow men. Miss Bondfield is the first woman to sit on the Treasury Bench in the British Commons, having been appointed by Ramsey MacDonald as parliamentary secretary for labor. Miss Bondfield had the distinction also of being elected (1923) the first woman chairman of the British Trades Union Congress. She has represented the organized workers at international conferences at Geneva, Paris, Washington and Moscow. What Miss Bondfield tells her audiences should be inspiring as well as informative."

The Ottawa Citizen says that Chief Justice McKeown comes to the chairmanship of the Railway Commission with a fine record and extensive experience, and adds: "His service as royal commissioner in the Home Bank investigations brought him before the public of Ontario with satisfactory results. Mr. Justice McKeown has a long and honorable career as a public representative and a judge behind him. It is to be assumed that he is also familiar with those questions which the Railway Commission has constantly to deal with. His selection as chief commissioner indicates the government's confidence in his ability for that onerous position. The country generally will share that confidence and believe that the appointment is one to be commended."

The Hamilton Herald adds its contribution to the Meighen controversy. It says: "Any Conservative politician who will pledge himself to consider the interests of Montreal first and the interests of Canada afterward can have the support of the Montreal Conservatives as national leader of their party. The price is too high."

There will be 800,000 Toronto voters entitled to cast their ballot at the Ontario plebiscite on October 23. This will include both municipal and provincial lists.

The Boston Transcript remarks that the Prince of Wales may be pardoned if he asks whether he is a guest or an exhibit.

On his fifth trip across Niagara Falls on a tight rope, Blondin carried a man weighing 145 pounds.

Press Comment

THE TOURIST BUSINESS.

(Winnipeg Tribune)

Canada is enjoying a good season in the tourist business. It has been estimated that this industry now represents an annual turnover of approximately \$150,000,000. "But the fact remains," says the Financial Post, "that Canadians are not making the best of export opportunities by any means. Those who have studied the trade possibilities are convinced that it would be possible to increase the proportions of the business to \$300,000,000 a year by selling Canada's tourist attractions to the world—and particularly the United States—(namely, by advertising, national, provincial, municipal and otherwise) and by taking advantage of the opportunities of selling goods, service and accommodation to the tourists. And what other industry presents anything like the possibilities for satisfactory profits in relation to the costs involved and the consumption of raw materials?"

CANADA'S FOREIGN TRADE.

(Montreal Gazette)

August returns of foreign trade are not cause for congratulation. Both imports and exports declined in value during the month. As compared with the corresponding period last year, imports decreased \$16,846,000 and exports \$8,200,000. As prices of commodities have not widely varied during the twelve months, except in the case of the figures in that trade is less of grains, the conclusion to be drawn active. Nor do the returns for the five elapsed months of the fiscal year present a better picture. In the aggregate, Canada's foreign trade has diminished \$46,000,000 from that of 1923, the decrease being, however, wholly in imports, which fell off \$59,700,000, while exports were \$14,800,000 greater in value. The big wheat export, which saved the situation, the export of cereals having risen \$29,600,000 in the five months. This has been the mainstay of exports, nearly 40 per cent. of which have consisted of wheat. Fortunately, the less favorable harvest now being gathered in the western provinces will be compensated substantially by the higher prices prevailing, the reduction of one-third in the value of wheat being offset by an increase of not less than 30 per cent. in value. The other principal item of export is wood products and paper, meaning in the major part pulp and newsprint. In August, shipments of these commodities declined \$5,000,000, or about 13 per cent., but in this case lower prices account for a good deal of the decrease. On the import side of the statement none of the figures are encouraging. In every department of trade there has been a falling-off in respect to value. The reason is not far to seek. Domestic trade has slackened, there are fewer goods being consumed; and, as a consequence, fewer goods manufactured in Canada as well as brought in from abroad. Buying proceeds cautiously, but small stocks mean a sharp business.

The following table shows the trend of Canada's foreign trade for the five months ending August 31st during the last six years:

| | 1919 | 1920 | 1921 | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 |
|---------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Imports | \$306,254,000 | \$474,446,000 | \$57,880,000 | \$77,474,000 | \$103,597,000 | \$116,640,000 |
| Exports | \$392,979,000 | \$386,876,000 | \$401,181,000 | \$383,258,000 | | |

These figures are not encouraging making favorable comparison, as they do, with any like period since the halcyon days of 1920, and if the recent downward tendency of the trade balance is maintained, the future can be faced with hope and confidence. Whether the recession has run its course is the uncertainty which hampers enterprise. The trade balance is favorable, much more so than a year ago, when in the five months imports exceeded exports by \$6,800,000, whereas this year there has been an excess of exports of \$68,000,000, in which recurrence may be found one reason for the restoration of the Canadian dollar to par.

FAIRVILLE PROPERTY SOLD.

Three lots and a frame house and a cement foundation on one of the lots in Moulton Ave., Fairville Plateau, were sold at public auction at noon Saturday at Chubb's Corner by Auctioneer F. L. Potts on the order of the Canadian Credit Men's Trust Association, Ltd. Porter and Ritchie, realtors, acting for a client, bid in the property for \$225.

DON'T LET THE FIRE BURN THRU TO THE OVEN

What a pleasure it is to do things yourself and to know they are well done. FOLEY'S PREPARED FIRE CLAY enables you to put the most durable of all linings in your own stove. Get a sheet of directions from the Hardware or Stove Dealer when you buy your clay. The above does not apply to those who burn wood exclusively. For them iron linings give good service.

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Leaves Bonaventure Station, Montreal, 10.00 A. M. Daily.

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Makes Daily Connection from all Maritime Province Ports.

For Fares, Reservations, Etc., Apply to L. C. LYND, City Ticket Agent, 49 King Street

TRAGEDY.

Your mind is darkened now, and all is dead.

Where confidence once looked through shining eyes

That proudly smiled. Your laughter, too, is dead.

Down those strange ways you wander

None may know, You walk alone, and I, who looked with pride

Upon your vigor once, now watch you

With halting steps along a futile road

That has no ending. . . Though I yearn to come

And cheer your lonely soul, and ease your load.

It cannot be. Far off I stand and pray

That you have kept some memory of me

To brighten, for a space, your fearful way.

—J. M. Old.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Good Reason.

A new suburbanite was asked why he did not make a garden.

"I prefer," he replied, "to depend on the grocer for my vegetables. When I ask him for beans, he doesn't give me Jimson-weed instead."

That Dreadful Child.

The little son of the house was very quiet during the first part of the dinner, and every one forgot that he was there.

As dessert was being served the host told a story. When he had finished, and the laughter had ceased, the little son exclaimed gleefully:

"Now, father, tell the other one."

A Motorist's Strategy.

During a motor trip last week (writes a Manchester Guardian correspondent) I picked up a little lesson in economy (or shall I say strategy?) A friend of mine accompanied me on another motor, and we pulled up at a small Herefordshire town to make a couple of hours' stay and to have lunch. I selected a garage as temporary cover for the two motors.

When we came away, I casually asked my friend how much he had been charged for the convenience. He said, "Nine-pence." I said: "That's strange—he charged me a shilling."

"Ah," observed my friend, "that was for garage accommodation; I asked him to put a fastener on my fan belt. It's only ninepence."

WHEN LONDON SLEEPS.

According to the London Morning Post, "the City of London has a sleeping population of only 19,700—6,722 males and 6,987 females. The day population is nearly half a million, and in addition over a million people and 100,000 vehicles enter and leave the square mile daily."

The sleeping population is rapidly declining and the day population increasing. The number of inhabited houses in 1801 was 17,738, but in 1861 it had declined to 14,880. At the same time uninhabited houses, which include shops, offices, and warehouses, had increased from 600 to 1,453. The efforts of the sanitary authority, combined with the increase in demolitions for business purposes made on houses, resulted in the 14,800 uninhabited houses of 1861 being reduced to 4,607 in 1881, and conversely uninhabited houses increased from 1,453 to 4,753. At the same time the population declined to a total representing two-fifths of inhabited houses from 6,507 in 1861 to 2,784 in 1911 was mainly due to commercial progress. The population in the same period declined from 50,635 to 19,657. The time is not far distant when the "city" will possess practically no private inhabitants at all.

TAX AGAINST GERMAN GOODS

Paris, Sept. 21.—An import tax of 26 per cent. will be levied on all goods from Germany beginning October 1, under the terms of a decree published today. This protective tariff against German goods was authorized by Parliament three years ago but was never enforced.

The bull fight has never been tolerated in Chile.

An electrical floor scrubber and waxer has been invented.

SHOOTING TRIPS THESE DAYS!

How About Guns, Rifles and Ammunition?

Much of your pleasure depends on the selection of a good, trusty Gun and Rifle, which we offer you from our carefully chosen stocks from leading standard makers. In GAME LOADS we can supply you those by Remington and by Dominion, all gauges; also Metallic Cartridges in all calibres.

DROP IN AND HAVE A LOOK AT THEM.

EMERSON BROTHERS, Limited

25 Germain Street. Phone Main 1910.

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