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SIGNIFICANT SIGNS.

A very large number of people turned out Monday to the first great meeting of the Liberal campaign. We think the significance of so large an attendance was that the every-day people are becoming thoroughly aroused on the economic question of reciprocity apart altogether from their views on party politics. There were more than three times as many people at the meeting last night as could be got together with beating up to attend the gathering which commissioned Hon. Mr. McBride to tell King George V. that the people of British Columbia are loyal. Perhaps this indicates the estimate which the ordinary man of the day puts upon the mass meeting and hurrah theory of flag waving. It may also intimate that the press agency popularity upon which the premier depends is beginning to crack at the veneer and look ragged at the edges to the common clay. At any rate Premier McBride is taking an unusual risk in throwing himself into the campaign of insult which is being daily heaped upon the people of Canada from ocean to ocean by the spielers of the opposition who have no better argument against reciprocity than an attack upon the loyalty of British subjects who are loyal to the core. When the citizens of Victoria vindicate the reciprocity pact, as they will do without any doubt upon September 21, the people who vote for it will not forgive the hypocritical politicians who have slandered them without measure, rhyme or reason.

There can be no better evidence of this than the attention which was paid last night to the excellent addresses of Mr. Patullo and Mr. J. T. Cowper. The latter's address, though quite academic at times, held the closest hearing of the audience, and we think this demonstrates that the people are interested in the economic basis and political principles that underlie the great issue upon which they will be called to pronounce. They will have many opportunities to acquire indisputable and convincing information.

DEALING WITH CRISES.

The Shareholder and Insurance Gazette, reviewing the coal strike situation and commenting on the action of the government in temporarily suspending the import duty on coal, says:

"In view of the above, does it not seem a little remarkable that the reciprocal proposals whereby Canada and the United States will each reduce their duties against coal from each country to the other should have aroused such opposition? We here find that as soon as a crisis occurs in which it seems that fuel will be hard to get, we not only reduce the duties against American coal, but we suspend them with the obvious purpose of getting coal as cheaply as possible. Would not this seem to be a worthy object, not only in the crisis, but at other times? With a very large percentage of the people of this country the purchase of fuel is always a crisis. Thousands of people work all summer long in order to lay by a few dollars to ensure a supply of fuel during the cold winter. It is a serious thing for them to have to pay a single dollar more than necessary for coal. There are many who object to the reciprocal proposals whereby Canada is to lower her duties a few cents a ton for coal. Under the circumstances, it seems strange that the same people see nothing to comment upon in the fact that the duty is being suspended entirely in the west in order to avert a coal famine, although it is still summer and nobody is likely to freeze for want of warm th."

M'BRIDE'S INCONSISTENCY.

The Hon. Richard McBride exhibits increasing evidence of the progress in his system of a disease, the germs of which were not suspected in his constitution until he became inoculated with the bacillus discovered in that Ottawa Tory caucus at which Mr. Borden was compelled to adopt the Empire dismemberment cry in order to have a campaign slogan. It is an open secret that Mr. Borden in this caucus stood out for hours in favor of reciprocity, and so well was his first impression of the pact understood that the leading Conservative organs of Ontario gave the reciprocity agreement all but unstinted praise. The Ottawa Journal, Mr. Borden's closest organ, published a long editorial on the morning after Hon. W. S. Fielding announced the pact in the House of Commons commending the measure. Not until it was found that the agreement was a breach of the Tory principle of high protection; not until the "interests" saw danger in it did any Conservative in Canada express anything but gratitude that, at last, an amicable and mutually profitable basis of trade relations with the United States had been effected.

No one thought of or saw any danger to Imperial solidarity. Even the stupidest Conservatives could see that it in no way affected the preferential advantages given to Great Britain by the Liberal government fourteen years ago.

For proof of this we can cite no more pronounced example than Premier McBride himself, though he yesterday at Duncans reaffirmed his insincere declaration "this reciprocity pact being thrust upon Canada would lead to the dismemberment of the Empire and fusion with the United States."

This is quite on a level with his utterances at the Conservative picnic at Goldstream, and at Duncans he again stated the unalterable determination of the Conservatives to "raise the duties still higher."

Premier McBride must be of short memory. Such utterances from him now undignify the dignified statements he made from his seat in the legislature on February 13th of this year when he was speaking to a resolution condemning the reciprocity pact and whipping into line the all too subservient members of the legislative assembly who do not fail to vote as Mr. McBride indicates the way. We reproduce his deliverances on two separate occasions to show that even Mr. McBride is not immune to the bacillus of inconsistency in his attitude upon a burning question.

From Premier McBride's address at the Conservative picnic, Goldstream, August 12, 1911. (Revised report):

"Are we of Canada going to preserve this blessed heritage of liberty, or are we to exchange it and our present fortunate conditions for those other conditions in which we find so much to criticize across the boundary line?

"Reciprocity is generally recognized now as threatening disastrous effects to Canadian national welfare. British Columbia is strongly opposed to it as shown by the resolution passed in the legislature on February 13, 1911.

"If reciprocity were passed it would not take many weeks to find out what material losses Canadians were suffering. It was all right to say that we would get cheaper tobacco and cheaper this and that, but under reciprocity we would pass into the grasp of the most merciless trusts, and moreover the wages of our working men would fall to the level of those across the line.

"Canada's aim," continued the premier, "should be to promote interprovincial and imperial trade — something that is being built up at present."

From Premier McBride's speech on reciprocity in the B. C. legislature, Feb. 13, 1911. (Colonist report):

"Some critics had gone the length of saying that it would mean a breach in the present Imperial relations that would widen gradually until it reached serious proportions. I would never go so far," said the premier. "I cannot believe that while we are called upon, under these circumstances, to make many sacrifices, this will in any degree affect the loyalty of British subjects in Canada, or the strong desire of Canadian people to take all constitutional means to make for efficient arrangements of Imperial federation. At the same time we cannot but conclude that the fact of our entering into closer commercial relations with the United States will not help out this Imperial problem, a matter which occupies great prominence with the politicians in the home land and of Imperial possessions. This bargain will not serve to help or strengthen them, but we have always the satisfaction of knowing that despite a condition of this sort, with the unbound loyalty we Canadians possess for Britain and British institutions, for flag and King, we can still persevere in our efforts to weld more closely together the Mother Country and the colonies, to the end that perhaps within a few years we shall see some advancement made in Imperial federation that will put the British Empire on that high plane she has easily the right to demand.'"

How the Premier can expect the people who have given him the highest office in their power to accept Mr. McBride's recent utterances is a matter which we are too overtaxed to explain. There is not even genius exhibited in his change of front. If there were any circumstances arising since February 13 to justify such a remarkable Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde Act we could understand the Premier's inconsistency. The change, however, appears to be wholly in Mr. McBride and accountable only on the assumption that he has placed himself and his machine at the service of "the Interests."

CHINESE HEAD TAX.

The Colonist is rattled. Instead of answering in a frank, courteous and fraternal way the request of the Times that it declare itself on the question of the Chinese head tax, it is dumb. It has high and mighty opinions upon weighty imperial questions about which the wisest British statesmen honestly differ, but it has no opinion as to what improvements could be made in the Immigration Act by which the number of Chinese coming into British Columbia would be limited and controlled. It is afraid lest that head tax of $500, one-half of which goes into the provincial treasury, will be repealed.

We also will ask a question. Suppose the Liberal government should decide on the abolition of the head tax — a move which, as yet, no one has asserted they will do—what new form of taxation will Mr. McBride inflict upon the workingmen and the miners of this province to raise the one and one-half millions that he now picks off the trees to bloat the treasury?

That is the question of the people, and the Colonist will have to tell the people where Mr. McBride stands on that question. Let this great and transcendant genius instruct the Colonist what to say.

TO WORKINGMEN.

The Colonist, having learned that it cannot frighten the more than ever well informed workingmen of Victoria with the false economic theory that "When the cost of living is reduced wages fall automatically" is endeavoring to frighten them with other scarecrows. It pictures the allegedly terrible condition of the workingmen in the United States, the lack of employment, the business depression, the discontent and general hard luck of the toilers. It says with whitened lips and the outstretched scrawny index finger of warning that reciprocity will introduce these conditions into Canada.

We do not think we need utilize much space in pointing out to workingmen that the deplorable conditions overdrawn in the lurid pictures of the morning paper are the necessary and logical result of the high tariffs which the United States has had in operation ever since the days of President McKinley. It is needless to recall that, repeatedly, wise statesmen in America have pointed out to the governments at Washington that these very conditions could not be escaped under the tariff systems and high protection which enable the trusts to precipitate the workingmen into these very circumstances. The most damning indictment of the tariff system which the Colonist, Premier McBride, Mr. Barnard and Tories everywhere in Canada, United States, and Great Britain is the story told in the Colonist this morning. The continuance of the fleecing of the public by tariff process—now that an opportunity is offered for escape—would be nothing short of criminal on the part of any government.

May we modestly and temporately point out that this sudden interest in the welfare of workingmen by the advocates of this fleecing policy is a modern miracle. How many times have the laboring men all over the world permitted themselves to be led by this party into the shambles and when these pirates of the workingmen's rights have been voted into power by their dupes, they have but turned and fleeced the consumers still more.

The workingmen can no longer be led, and now the Colonist thinks it can frighten and stampede them. The one thing about workingmen of which the Times is absolutely confident is that the ravings of these desperate marauders will not again mislead or touch with pity the heart of the laborers who have been fleeced too long.

VIEWS OF A CONSERVATIVE "WAIF."

To the Editor:—I have been always a consistent Conservative and stuck to my party through thick and thin in the Mother Country and here until it was disgraced at the elections of 1908.

But now, drifting between the two parties, I am a voluntary outcast and waif; described by Nuttall as "one who wanders about and has no home."

At the last election I made the fatal mistake of believing that Mr. Barnard (or any other man above the social position of a jail-bird) would have resigned and indignantly spurned the assistance of felons, as a standing blot upon the fair fame of Victoria and the Conservative party.

No, sir, he did not think of resigning, as he owed such a debt of gratitude to the Colonist and others, who, if they got their deserts, would not be in a position to record their votes at the coming elections.

As a "moving picture," could anything be more amusing or degrading than the appearance of the M. P. for Victoria hobbling into parliament at Ottawa between a vulgar criminal and his coadjutor the whited sepulchre, who then in fear and trembling went whining to the confessional to "save their bacon" instead of their souls?

A vote is worth having, and, upon second thoughts, Mr. Barnard is welcome, to mine, for auld acquaintance sake, if in the Times, the Colonist or on the platform, he shows clearly the least contrition for his collusion with the person (still at large) who stole and forged the memorable telegram in 1908. Meantime I remain only "A WAIF."

FRANCE AND GERMANY.

French Cabinet Will Meet on Friday to Consider Final Reply Regarding Morocco.

Paris, Aug. 23.—A cabinet council has been called for next Friday, when consideration will be given to what is designed to be France's final word to Germany concerning Morocco and the compensations to Germany in other parts of Africa.

The ministry will have to estimate the effect on the French public opinion of this reply quite as much as its effect on Germany.

SWEEPING VICTORY FOR RECIPROCITY

LARGE ACCESSIONS FROM THE OPPOSITION

Scribe Writes Interestingly of Conversations With Canadian Voters

(E. W. Thompson, in Boston Transcript.)

Last Friday I left Ottawa, whose hotels were crowded with American tourists mostly delighted with the city and with their good-natured selves as "free-spenders." They were hiring Ottawa cabs and autocars, filling the tourist automobiles, rambling about Parliament Hill, thronging the noble public buildings and buying lots of clothing, jewellery, furs and other things they didn't much need, partly to take home something Canadian—if their infernal customs officials would let them—and partly to demonstrate to their hosts that international friendliness which President Taft has promoted, which both parties in both Houses of Congress have promoted, which Ambassador Bryce has promoted, which the statesmen of both British old country parties have long furthered handsomely, and to which the humble person now writing has sedulously tried to contribute as Canadian correspondent of the Boston Transcript during the past nine years.

In Montreal I found at the Windsor, the Place Viger, and the less famous hostelries precisely similar conditions. The city was thronged with open-handed, kindly "Yankees," acting as 'tis their nature to—when they are in good humor. On Tuesday morning I landed at the King Edward, in this bustling city, where the same phenomena are obvious in this house, in the good old Queen's and Rossin, in every other comfortable hotel on the streets, in the stores and places of horse and gasoline livery. Similar conditions prevail at this moment, they have persisted since mid-June, they will persist till late in September at Quebec, Halifax, St. John, Moncton, Charlottetown, Fredericton, at Hamilton, at London, at all the principal Ontario towns; at Fort William, Port Arthur, Winnipeg, Brandon, Regina, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, Victoria and other important places too numerous to specify.

At least quarter a million free-handed American tourists must be in Canada at this moment. If anybody will liberally back an opinion that there are not nearer twice as many than so many, he can find takers who will abide by what the railway and steamboat passenger traffic agents may certify in the premises. It is safe betting that there will be more of the same in Canada next year, more again in 1913, and so on indefinitely, if nothing occurs to make the powerful fraternity of American editors and publishers convinced that Canadians in general do not wish for the friendship and travel of Americans, but for as little intercourse with them as is humanly possible to neighbors along 3,500 miles of boundary line. That fraternity could in six months convince the bulk of American tourists that they are not wanted in the Dominion, that their room is preferred to their company, that their money and liberal good-will do not secure them a real welcome.

The world does not contain a people more essentially sentimental than Americans, more disposed to amiability and generosity towards friends, more quick and steadfast in resenting proved dislikes. At least, that is the opinion of the present writer, who has been going forth and back between his native Ontario and various parts of the Republic ever since a boyhood which ended about forty-six years ago. Let the American editorial fraternity, who are a just and reasonable folk on the whole, once see just and undeniable reason to believe Canadians essentially embittered against, unfriendly, or even hostile to neighborly intercourse with Americans, and that fraternity will convince the American people of the fact "quicker than you could say trapsticks." At least the state of conviction would be put into them before the next season for summer touring began. Then that touring would stop, or become a mere dribble of the bolder sort, curious to see, realize, and, if possible, understand why Americans were so detested in a country of whose people they have long spoken well, to whom they have given unstinted praise for energetic achievement, and of whom their public men have lately said nothing worse than "By jing, we wish we could get the bully Canucks to join our country instead of a raft of brown or copper-colored Filipinos, Porto Ricans and other such lazy dagoes."

What does the tourist travel in Canada amount to in cold cash, in demand for local goods, but the manufactured and the imported from England, in prices for the best of chickens, eggs, vegetables, fruits and every other succulent and toothsome thing Canadians can raise, and do produce in first-class shape? If it does not amount to fifty million dollars a year, then good estimates are far wrong. It amounts, anyway, to that demand which puts the "just what's needed" into business, urban and rural. It is the "something extra" which makes all the difference between flush times and crawling along the best you can by the mercy of creditors. There is, in my opinion, no greater bosh than the notion that Canada has been and is so prosperous because our tariff has long enabled some of us, a small minority, to prevent the rest of us buying where we can buy cheapest, just as the United States and other abominable foreign tariffs have prevented us selling where we could get the most money for our products. I have gone far and wide over Canada, from Prince Edward Island to Vancouver, B. C., three times during the past eight years, with eyes open and continual reflection on the real causes of the prosperity of my dearly beloved native country. The cause of that prosperity is immigration.

Immigration has been adding from two to five hundred thousand people, mostly able-bodied, and many of them with good, hard-saved, cold cash, to our population every year since 1900, when the real boom began. Had the tariff made us all flush before that year? No. The tariff could help us to wealth about as much as we can get to heaven by hoisting ourselves by the tops of our boots, an effort which would rather impair our strength, even as tariffs do. The cause of Canadian prosperity is the ever-increasing fresh demand for what things are produced by the men and women on the ground, in the cities, in the fishing boats, in the mines, in the forests. The immigrants, speedily as they get to work, can't produce fast enough to supply themselves and the next year's immigrants. All reasonable observers know what I am saying to be simply true.

But what has immigration got to do with tourist travel? Why, the latter is essentially immigration, and the very cream of immigration, for four months each year. The tourists are all good spenders; they go away, but their money stays; they have stimulated demand all summer; they do not enter into competition with our workers; they fetch in lots of United States money to support those workers and to raise their wages, profits and other earnings. Without them we certainly should all be distinctly worse off. They do not cost our governments—which are only the agents of our taxpayers—one red cent. They resemble the fertilizing waters of the Nile in overflowing the country annually, and leaving it a lot richer than it was before. What if the annual Nile flood stopped? Then the agriculture and the cities of Egypt would get along somehow, of course. But, Lordy how the people would pray for resumption of the good, old customary enriching flood!

Well, do Canadians in general imagine that nothing harmful is going to happen if they slap their good neighbors in the face at the elections of next September? I claim to know my fellow-countrymen as well as any other native-born, and therefore British-born, man in the Dominion. Are they a people to be bulldozed? Never. They have proved their staunchness to British connection and to our national idea of a separate and independent British country on this continent over and over again. The U. E. Loyalists (among whom I had two great-grandfathers, one of them no less a fighter than Parshall Terry of Butler's Rangers) proved that they meant the native-born of Canada to be forever British-born when they left all they had in the thirteen revolted colonies to live under their and our fathers' Crown—God bless it and the wearer. The next generation, among whom my grandfather, Colonel W. Thomson, and all his able-bodied relations fought in the war of 1812, proved that they stuck to the intentions of their fighting daddies. Many of the veterans of 1812 turned out like my aforesaid grandfather with their boys in 1837 to prove the same old sum, even on the bodies of fellow-countrymen who did not start meaning rebellion, but set out for nothing worse than reform and got too angry on the way. Twenty-nine years later, in 1866, the grandsons and great-grandsons, including the present writer, then of the Queen's Own Rifles, turned out, as in 1870, to hold off the Fenian invasion. The year 1885 saw eastern Canadians marching west against Riel and his humble, not ill-meaning, folk, who had been crazed by a governmental neglect that Sir John Macdonald, then getting old, never meant, and which he hastened to redress as soon as they took up arms. All the same, the Canadian march westward proved again the old intention that Canada should remain British. It was once more certified to in the Boer war. Anybody who does not think it sufficiently proven again by the Navy Act of two years ago is welcome to his opinion. No; Canadians can't be bulldozed, and common sense is not going to imagine that I am silly enough to think they can be when I have said what is the next link in this chain of straight reasoning.

Will no harm happen if we slap our neighbors in the face on the 21st day of the coming September? Man alive, think of what has happened! Think of what our neighbors have done. Think of how we should feel if they flung back in our faces by a popular vote a trade agreement which they had been asking us for during two generations, and which we had at last given them, more to show good-will than in any hope to gain money by it. Think how we'd feel if such an agreement had been often sought by them; if they had sworn never to ask us for it again; if we had at last gone to them, saying: "Let us talk about your old wish now"; if they had consented to dicker; if the dickering had produced the very thing that all their public men had publicly desired for fifty years; if our men of good-will had passed it, as the result of long political struggle, and much of that in hot weather; if our Governor-General had had to sit over a refrigerator to supervise the struggle for amity; if the bargain had been slowly worked through our House of Commons; if it had passed our Senate with difficulty; if it had been signed by our Governor-General—think, I repeat, of how we should feel if our neighbors then kicked the whole thing into oblivion at the polls.

Would we not feel trapped, insulted, enraged, and mighty ready to be as nasty as possible to such deceitful and cantankerous neighbors? Put yourself in the place of the Yankee at this moment. He, his President, his House of Representatives, his Senate, his editors by an immense majority, have passed reciprocity, in spite of the most strenuous opposition of multitudinous American farming and other interests, because, in my certainly experienced judgment, the Yankees know that both our parties and all our Ottawa ministries asked for it for fifty years; because the Yankees always did feel kind of mean in refusing it; because they have been admiring Canadian courage and enterprise for ten years back, and because they simply wish to be neighborly now. To allege that they imagine reciprocity to be half as much to their commercial advantage as they and we know it will be to ours is as pure bosh as it is to allege that they think so contemptibly of the staunch-hearted Canadian people as to conceive that reciprocity will soothe them into a wish for political union.

The truth is, as I know from much intercourse with Americans, that they have got completely over their old, fond notion that we Canadians would "come in" if they persisted in refusing our farmers and other producers of "naturals" free entrance to their markets. By forsaking that old delusion comes one of their friendly reasons for at last consenting to reciprocity. They have said in their hearts, "We have tested those industrious Canadians long enough. Took us more'n a hundred years to get it through our heads that they meant to stay British. Now we have got sure of that. All right. Let 'em stay out. That's no reason we shouldn't treat them neighborly. And, by gosh, we are aware of being ourselves now mighty well inclined to the old daddy of most of our daddies, John Bull. Here's for friendliness with our blood-brother, Johnny Canuck! And it won't be surprising if we show old John himself next, by some practical reciprocity of trade preference, that we ain't unamiable toward himself, not by any manner of means."

Hands all round among English-speaking peoples is a goal straight on the road forward, once we get reciprocity in natural products between the King's ever-faithful Dominion and the immensely powerful and rich English-speaking community alongside. Good-will produces good-will, which endlessly reproduces beneficent effects. Hate and jealousy produce also their devilish kind.

To get back to the tourist traffic which is enriching every Canadian town and country region at this moment of time. Is it going to last and grow or diminish and cease after the 21st of September? That depends. Now, I am writing under the judgment of a very experienced American, who knows both east and west, viz., the editor of the Boston Transcript. I say, with his approval, that it depends entirely on what American editors shall be made to feel, and to impart to their American readers, after the Canadian elections of September next. I assert positively that the American press, having a public duty to perform — the duty of informing their people of the meanings of public events—could not but know and state that a rejection of reciprocity by the popular vote of Canadians, who stand to gain enormously by the measure, could signify nothing short of a profound Canadian animosity against good neighbors, and a popular Canadian wish not only to reduce commercial intercourse with them but to tell them so in as public and offensive a way as is humanly possible.

Surely that would be a very unwise proceeding on the part of Canadians even if they felt so. The tourist traffic—profitable as it is, and much as future Canada, the Switzerland of the continent, ought to gain by it — is a bagatelle compared with the losses which might be inflicted by a neighbor whose border is coterminous with ours for 3,500 miles, and with whose railways ours and their traffic in bond are intermingled — not so inextricably that the great neighbor, if wantonly insulted, could not disentangle them, with far worse loss to Canada than to himself. Enough said on that point. Especially as there is not, in my judgment, the least reason to believe that Canadians will not joyfully take the neighborly extended hand instead of slapping it back in the American face.

If we wished to refuse the benefits of reciprocity, if our suspicion of our own hearts were such that we could not trust ourselves to sell Yankees a bushel of onions where now we sell them a peck, if we feared that selling them hay at four dolars' advance per ton would corrupt our devotion to King George—that true Monarch of the people, whose heart is with the workers and the poor despite the terrific threats of the moribund Peerage—if we were like the wicked in Scripture who "flee when no man pursueth," still it would be insenate to throw out reciprocity by popular vote. Why? Because the agreement is one of concurrent legislation. We can, if we abhor continuance of taking fifty cents a barrel more for apples from the wicked Yankee than Father John Bull can afford to give us, throw out the reciprocity agreement any year, or any session of the Ottawa Parliament. We can amend it in such a way that the onus of closing the whole thing will be taken by Uncle Samuel. We can dicker with him for changes, and if he won't agree we can go ahead and make them and leave him to take it or leave it. This is all provided for in the agreement—so canny and forsighted were those innocent young Canadian babes, Messrs. Fielding and Paterson, in drawing the agreement up. Uncle Sam could not pretend a grievance, nor his editors have the least excuse for getting rampageous, if we did annul the thing cannily instead of insultingly, as our super-loyal but so rash Tories propose. In ratifying reciprocity even as our neighbors have done, we shall give no sort of pledge of honor that we will adhere to it one hour after it may suit us to jettison the whole thing.

Now for a little prophesying, a favorite pastime of many more or less wise men in political campaigns. Reciprocity will not only be approved greatly at the September polls, but it will be most notably approved by the popular vote of Ontario. This is where the surprise of the Bordenites is coming in. Nobody of experience can doubt it, if he remember that Ontario never yet was otherwise than favorable to reciprocity in natural products, and if he goes about among Conservatives and listens to what they are saying now.

I have it straight from the lips of many of them—I had it in Norfolk on Tuesday from a prominent and sagacious life-long Conservative doctor whose extensive practice is largely among Conservative farmers—that Conservatives all over that region are saying that Mr. Borden has gone wrong on this vital matter, has gone back on Sir John Macdonald, has done dirt to the record of his historic party, and that they will vote for reciprocity in September. I have had the same experience in eastern Ontario and in western Quebec. Such straws never yet failed to show how the wind is blowing.

The turnover in Ontario, as in every other province, is going to be not from the Ministerialistic party, but from the foes of reciprocity. That much-talked of "small percentage" which if it went one way would turn Laurier out is going the other way, and it will reduce the Opposition ranks at Ottawa by at least ten, and probably twenty-five, seats. This will be partly an effect of so many canny Conservatives reasoning: "We will do our level best to make the majority for reciprocity big. That is the way to make our foolish misleaders stop clamoring against it. That is the way to make them own up that they were wrong, and have become willing to declare acceptance of the popular verdict. Once we get reciprocity established, then we can turn on Laurier at the next elections, within a year hence. Then we can safely show him what we think about some things that are not up in this referendum election, simply because the first need of us all is that reciprocity shall be passed, and so given a chance to show whether it will make good."

LUMBER COMPANY MAY BUILD RAILWAY

Surveyors Seeking Route Between Jordan River and Sooke Harbor

Otter Point, Aug. 23.—Surveyors in the employ of the Michigan Pacific Lumber Company recently passed through this district, surveying a route for a railroad from Jordan River to Sooke Harbor, a distance of about twenty miles. If this road is built, it is likely the company would construct a sawmill at Sooke Harbor, where the facilities for handling logs and lumber are favorable.

Miss Belle Dauphin and Miss Blanche Revercomb, of Victoria, are enjoying a visit to Otter district.

Miss Lavinia Anderson has returned from town, after a week's stay.

Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Dods are being congratulated on the advent of a son and heir.

LOCAL NEWS

—The winning number in the raffle of Tile-setters Local No. 62, Vancouver, was 3446.

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—St. Louis College Catholic school for boys, corner Vancouver and Pandora streets, will reopen on Monday next, at 9 o'clock a. m.

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—The members of the Sunday school of Christ Church cathedral left town Tuesday for Ten-Mile point, where the annual picnic was held. A pleasant time was spent by all.

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—Owing to the fact that many of the boys are still away on their vacations it was decided to hold the Boy Scouts' regatta next month. The sports were to have been held some time this month at Oak Bay.

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—Owing to the inclemency of the weather last Saturday the picnic which was to be held at "Ourappyome" camp, Willows beach, was postponed till next Saturday, August 26. All the friends are invited to be present on that date.

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—A meeting of the Liberals of Oaklands district, for organization purposes, will be held on Friday evening at 1455 Hillside avenue. A cordial invitation is extended to every Liberal elector in that part of the city to attend.

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—It is officially announced in the London press that the King has been pleased to approve the appointment of the Right Rev. William Willcox Perrin, D.D., D.C.L., Bishop of Columbia, to be Bishop Suffragan of Willesden. The notification of the selection of Willesden, in the county of Middlesex, as Suffragan See was also gazetted.

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—The regular meeting of the Sons of England, Pride of the Island lodge, was held on Tuesday in the A. O. U. W. hall, Broad street. The business over, the Red Rose degree was completed as quickly as possible, and was followed by a meeting of the White Rose, the second degree in the S. O. E. Every members of the Red Rose took the second degree.

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—Building permits were issued Tuesday by Building inspector Tait to Olinhant for two dwellings, Cook street, $1,950 each; to J. R. A. Todd, dwelling, Vancouver street, $1,800; to A. B. Robertson, dwelling, Hilda street, $2,500; to Brackman & Ker, alterations to premises on Broad street, $250; to Wilson Noble, dwelling, Simcoe street, $1,500; to Chung Lung, additions to premises on Fisguard street, $1,000.

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—The reception committee of the board of trade has made plans for the entertainment of the members of the British press, who will reach here on Sunday, September 10. The plans will be telegraphed to the journalists for approval. The committee has arranged to show the visitors as much of the beauties of Victoria and her surroundings as is possible in the limited space of time at their disposal. The committee consisted of Hon. D. M. Eberts, M.P.P., chairman, and J. Kirk and C. W. Rhodes. W. E. Scott, deputy minister of agriculture, who will accompany the party through British Columbia, attended the meeting.

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—The organization meeting of the Victoria Rugby Football Club will be held in the J. B. A. A. rooms on Monday evening, when officers for the ensuing season will be elected and plans for the trip south to play Stanford and California universities will be discussed. It has been suggested that the Vancouver and Victoria players be combined and a team representative of the province be sent south. This is being heartily supported by the local club. Secretary W. H. Spalding states that the majority of those players, who represented Victoria last season and captured the B. C. championship, were prepared to make the tour. The southern universities have guaranteed $1,800 to pay the expenses of the visiting team.