

THE EDMONTON BULLETIN

Published every Monday and Thursday by the Bulletin Company, Ltd., at the office, Bulletin Bldg., 414 Jasper Ave. East.

Subscription prices: One year to Canadian or British Post Office address, \$1.00.

Monday, June 19, 1911.

THE "HOLD-UP ENGLAND" POLICY.

Those of his newspaper friends who are urging Mr. Borden to stimulate a friendship for the British Empire in the hope of gaining sympathy with his campaign against trade freedom are inviting their leader to either commit himself to a course of deliberate deception or to threefold board one of the principles which have dominated the party's trade policy ever since it had a trade policy.

A reciprocity agreement with the West Indies is said to be on the tapis. This would hardly be so vigorously in reference to British trade and tariff arrangements for its development, the standing maxim of the Opposition party for twenty years has been to coerce England into putting a tariff tax on her food supplies.

This was the ground upon which the party Mr. Borden leads fought the giving of the preference in 1897. In reference to the agreement with the West Indies, the honorable gentlemen himself. Against the preference the assault was waged squarely on the grounds that it would give the motherland nothing for nothing. The government were bestowing upon the people of the Old Land something for which they were getting no return in kind—that was the point of attack and the folly of the thing from the Opposition point of view.

LET THEM ALL COME. Regina Standard. A Minneapolis business man says he has solved the reason for the Reciprocity movement. It is James J. Hill and the steel trust. In reference to the steel trust, as soon as it is passed the Hill railways will push into western Canada.

By all means let us have the railway, and let us have them soon. The west has long been hoping for the fulfillment of Mr. Hill's promise to invade the prairies with his railways, and if the Minnesota government is to be relied upon, England anything in the way of tariff concession unless England is prepared to impose a tariff on food stuffs from other countries. If he appears to be may-to show friendship for the Preference, it will only be in the way and to such degree as might deceive some unwary voters in Canada, without giving the tariff boosters across the water to think that he has gone back on them.

A large and popular audience in Winnipeg reversed the resolution of the board of trade and declared approval of reciprocity. A board of trade at most express only the opinions prevalent among that minority of the people in a community who are enticed in the process of manufacturing and exchange, and of these only so many as associate themselves with the purpose of promoting their special interests or those of the community, as the case may be. Consider the composition of western boards of trade the matter of wonder is not that one or two voted against reciprocity but that so many voted in favor of it.

Mr. Haultain's View. Following is a report of the speech of Mr. Haultain in the Legislature at Regina a few months ago, in which he is opposing reciprocity have

representatives, who naturally belong to the boards of trade, and who also naturally have a thought as to the interests of number one, and the firm number one works for when discussing tariff matters. The result of this arrangement is to give one eastern manufacturer a dozen votes in as many western boards. That so many of these boards have approved reciprocity demonstrates how strongly the business men of the country who are doing business for themselves favor the agreement.

It is announced from Minneapolis that the Great Northern Railway Company will use part of the \$60 million dollars credit it lately provided to build railways in western Canada. This will be agony for the trade restrictionists and the Canadian railway corporations, but it will be cheerful intelligence for the allowance for the superior wisdom of the eastern oracles, this gentleman feels that his patriotism could stand reference in hope of gaining sympathy with his campaign against trade freedom are inviting their leader to either commit himself to a course of deliberate deception or to threefold board one of the principles which have dominated the party's trade policy ever since it had a trade policy.

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LET THEM ALL COME. Regina Standard. A Minneapolis business man says he has solved the reason for the Reciprocity movement. It is James J. Hill and the steel trust. In reference to the steel trust, as soon as it is passed the Hill railways will push into western Canada. Incidentally he quotes some interesting facts about the possibilities of the west as a wheat producing country, which are pretty good from the booster's standpoint. He figures that the total possible wheat production and shows how many thousands of trainloads it will make. Then he shows that to secure their food they should be given concessions in the Canadian tariff.

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Having in mind the fact that reciprocity with the United States was a down, it means simply this: There step forward, but policy which seemed to be approved even in earlier ages of government in Canada, even before they had what might be termed responsible government; having that in view he must confess that when the reciprocity agreement was first spoken of and had taken only one view and that was the Chamberlain, in the right direction. He was quite free to say, that had been made in other places, that he saw no necessity to change his first impressions.

The point about the agreement which appealed to him was that it provided another market for the farmers and fishermen and other producers of food-stuffs throughout the whole Dominion. The great question that was affecting food-stuffs was not that affecting food-stuffs, but that eventually the northern part of the continent—and that applied particularly to Saskatchewan—was going to be the largest producer of food for the world. The United States was rapidly ceasing to be an exporting country. It would become less and less so as market for food-stuffs was concerned. Eventually the United States would have to come to Canada for food stuffs and give them everything that was going to be given to the Dominion, but there was an old saying that what was given soon was twice taken. The inevitable destiny for Saskatchewan was to be a food producer for the whole of the continent and the sooner it was able to establish that trade relation the better.

There was only one thing to be done. If a thing was right they must go straight on in the direction into which it led without regard to tradition, policy, or anything else. He would be the west required the preference change. If it was good for the West and not bad for the whole of the Dominion, why should they not support it? He might be criticised by men who had a broader view so far as intimate knowledge of the question was concerned from a purely economic standpoint. But, he did not yield to anyone in that respect.

We out here are just as well able as magnates in the East; I say we are just as well able to be patriotic or unpatriotic as they are. I am not prepared to sit at the feet of any of these Eastern Gama. Hold and study the only proposed arrangement does not turn out as satisfactory as it is hoped or intended. It will be a simple thing to change the tariff, but I am not prepared to do so. The management can't do it away with practically at once, and that is another reason for trying the local and provincial, but I am perfectly willing to accept these large adjustments.

A FATUOUS POLICY.

Chagrin may properly be assumed to have a part in the dissatisfaction of Mr. Borden and his friends with the trend of tariff matters, especially in reference to the goods duty. The hold-up policy, by which these gentlemen are pledged has not even the saving grace of being a possible success. The people of Great Britain have made it abundantly plain that they have not the remotest intention of allowing themselves to be coerced or stamped into putting a tax on their food. And the position of the Opposition is that the British people put a tax on their food; they should be given concessions in the Canadian tariff.

That position was declared almost twenty years ago, when the Canadian parliament, in which the party then had a large majority, passed the following resolution: "That if and when the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland admits Canadian products to the markets of the United Kingdom upon more favorable terms than those which are accorded to the products of foreign countries, the Parliament of Canada will be prepared to accord corresponding advantages by a substantial reduction in its duties it imposes upon British manufactured goods." As Britain admits the products of the world free, the only way it could confer this favor on Canadian products is to impose a tariff upon products from foreign countries. The substance of the resolution is that unless the British people impose such a tariff on foreign products, they need not have a tariff on their own products. This position is in power and now in opposition in the Canadian parliament.

This resolution was intended to embody a standing declaration on the question of a preference to goods from the Old Land. It was advanced at a time when reciprocity with the United States was being widely debated in Canada, and a counter-proposal thereto. It must be taken therefore to express the limit to which the party then in power were prepared to go in the matter of favoring the British and to resist any proposal that would live to the advantage of the United States. This resolution was quoted by the party leader when Mr. Fielding introduced his preferential tariff, and was adopted as the main fighting ground against that tariff. It constitutes the last official declaration of Mr. Borden and those he leads upon in Great Britain's hands. A treaty that

designed to make sure that in case of a dispute with another nation arbitration will be tried before strong measures are taken calls for no consultation, because there is no question as to its wisdom. More than in this described may reasonably be expected stage will be more surely reached, if it is to be reached, by going slowly in what makes for change. In the same sense a good warm on the question, would vote against a standing council of the colonies in London. Members of one of the new strong supporters of the measure, had been hearing of instruction, and would have but limited authority to diverge from their written orders. They could not be held to vote the ideas of the colonies as a whole. There might be a risk that as a body they would become something of no authority and a weak voice interposed between the government of a colony and the government of the United Kingdom. That properly concerned only the particular colony and the government of the Dominion. Let us not forget the present proposed reciprocity treaty with the United States. It is a council made up of representatives of other colonies and sitting in London could influence a vote in this country. The usefulness of the conference of 1911 will not be in what it builds, but in its showing where it will build. It is found that the foundation is to be.

Mr. John Herron, M.P., after spending a few weeks among his constituents in the southern part of the province, has announced that he will vote for reciprocity. Mr. Herron is one of the western Opposition and found that without protest while his fellow parliament from the eastern provinces were blocking the agreement by every device available. Having done what he could for the agreement, he now announces that he will change sides in hope that reciprocity will not defeat him. Mr. Herron's case is not one of sudden conversion. It is one of "cold feet."

The Winnipeg Telegram is of opinion that if an election is fought this year, the Telegram now wants to have the discussion of that issue raised by the opposition. In the West our opposition friends seem to be losing their enthusiasm for the slaughter of the agreement.

THE IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

The London Times in an open letter condemning the Imperial Conference concludes with the petition: "I cannot have sentiment, let us at year other issues than reciprocity should be introduced into the campaign. That is peculiar. His friends would cause or justify an election this year, the Telegram now wants to have the discussion of that issue raised by the opposition. In the West our opposition friends seem to be losing their enthusiasm for the slaughter of the agreement.

The Toronto Mail and Empire scored a few days ago that as Mr. Fielding's attitude toward the Empire Nova Scotia, reciprocity could not be very popular in the province down there. The Mail knows, or should know, that for many months Mr. Fielding's health has been in a precarious condition, and that he went to Europe to get his health restored. Nova Scotia, reciprocity could not be very popular in the province down there. The Mail knows, or should know, that for many months Mr. Fielding's health has been in a precarious condition, and that he went to Europe to get his health restored.

The Toronto Star-Carrie Nation is and, but Cora Nation is the liveliest thing in the Empire. Toronto Star—According to the Toronto News, the American trustees of the Canadian West, have been a fever case in the attitude of the Sardinian which arrived here this evening. And it is only a few days since this country was to be flooded with the surplus farm products of the United States. It is a sort of argumentative merry-go-round.

Saskatoon Capitalist—The New York post supply committee of one dis-nomination reports that: "One candidate was objected to by a congressional committee because of the public; another congregation objected to the style in which a minister combed his hair; another rejected a candidate because 'he walked sodden and Mayor Hopewell."

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Goderich Signal—Will Conservatives admit that it was only the friendly attitude of the United States Government that saved Canada from disaster when Sir John Macdonald and Sir John Thompson besought Washington for a reciprocity treaty? Or is this outcry now made simply because it is a Grit Government that is securing what their leaders could not get? Regina Leader—The Ottawa Citizen, the conservative paper at the time of the federal capital, is a staunch supporter of reciprocity. In a recent issue it refers to the statement of a speaker at the meeting of the National Association, which was promoted and paid for by the automobile manufacturers in the name of the Grange from that state into Canada. The speaker in the name of the Grange falls to see how such a move would be a bad thing for the Dominion. As a kind of annexation that will follow reciprocity and it is a brand of anti-Canadianism that can rejoice to see take place.

CHURCH UNION UP AGAIN.

Presbyterian Assembly Decides De-tille of Vote of Members and Adherents. Ottawa, June 15—At the afternoon session today of the Presbyterian General Assembly, the question of church union came up for discussion. The standing committee of which principal Patrick is chairman reported, incorporating the recommendations of a special committee, which the assembly had already passed, and also making a recommendation that in addition to the vote from church sessions and adherents, the vote of members and adherents to the vote of the assembly to be taken up to March 15th, and of the Presbyterians up to the date of the meeting. The discovery of the alliance between the officials of the National proposed basis of union before the members of the assembly, had caused a change in the attitude of printed copies of the proposed basis of union to be sent to every member, so that an intelligent vote be taken.

Killed at Calgary Camp.

Calgary, June 15—Alex Gibson of the 4th Army Service Corps was killed at the military camp here this morning. He was bringing a load of hay to the camp when the horse he was driving ran away and fell upon him. The animal was killed and the horse was rescued. His parents live at 53 Francis street, Fort William.

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