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SAINT JOHN, MONDAY MORNING, SEPT. 11, 1911.

A PREMIER'S ARGUMENTS.

Little by little the great electoral contest is getting down to rock bottom. The water is being gradually squeezed out of the extravagant capitalization authorized by the Grit managers and directors, and the assets are undergoing a severe process of valuation and audit. Under this sifting process the real assets have so shrunk that the absurd capitalization of vaunted advantages is overwhelming the Laurier-Taft & Co. notation with ridicule, and in fact is beginning to excite a feeling of just indignation against the evident attempt to get general subscriptions for a fake concern. In this respect the tour of the head promoter, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, has been productive of real benefit to the people at large, however disappointing it has proved to the political prospects of the party itself. It has cleared up many things not before clearly seen.

The open and repeated confession of the Premier has been made in definite English words. He has no explanation to give as to why, when Canada was in the midst of great progress and prosperity, and business and trade conditions were favorable and stable, he should have produced an alleged remedy for a disease which did not exist, and injected doubt, uncertainty and confusion into the whole situation. Had the productivities of Canada shown signs of decrease or stagnation, had the business conditions of Canada indicated weakness, the trade of Canada diminished or the markets for her products refused to receive them or pay fair prices for them, then it would have been the part of statesmanship to seek the reasons and provide the remedy. But none of these things either occurred or were heralded by any discoverable signs.

On the contrary the productions of Canada were never so prolific, the business never better, the trade never more buoyant or the prices more satisfactory. The great home market took 80 per cent. of all the farmers raised, and at remunerative, say at very high prices. The great mother's market of Great Britain took 16 per cent. and would have eagerly absorbed more. The remaining 4 per cent. was quickly taken by the outside world. If Canada had raised twice as much it could have been sold in these markets and sold well.

Why, under these circumstances, did Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his associates conclude this pact and try to force it on the people without the consent of the electors? He has been asked that question, he has refused to answer it, and has in fact declared that he is under no obligation to answer it. There was no reason in the public interest, Sir Wilfrid gives none. The situation is without parallel in the history of legislation.

Suppose there was no reason for action, but that as is the fact, action was taken and a pact concluded, and the Government forced, much against their will, to present it for the acceptance of the people. What follows?

On its presentation to the people the Prime Minister is bound to lay before the electors in full detail the advantages which are to flow from its adoption. The onus of proof, both for its necessity and its advantages is upon him and his Government. It is wide-reaching, touches the main issues of business and production, transport and trade very vitally, and involves a grave change in the present policy of Canadian development which has been slowly evolved and built by the costly processes of some forty years.

Before we burn the bridge that has safely carried us, surely we should be thoroughly informed as to the proposed new highways we are asked to travel. But what happens? In Simcoe, in St. John, in Halifax, and now again in Ontario, the Premier flatly refuses to argue the case. He declares the advantages are self-evident and need no proof. He declines to argue the case.

It is not necessary, he says, to argue that the sun shines, that water runs down hills, or that seeds germinate; so in like manner it is not necessary for him to argue that Reciprocity is advantageous, or that this particular pact is beneficial. A boy in the fourth form that would so reason would be whipped. It is not necessary to argue to a man that the sun shines, or that water runs down hill, or that seeds germinate. True, and why? Because we have seen the sun shining and water running down hill every day of our lives—these are facts based on actual constant occurrence. But this proposed Reciprocity under present conditions, is not a fact based on experience. There has been no trial of it, no man has seen it working for years or even days. It is not a fact based on experience. **IT IS NOT A FACT OF EXPERIENCE, BUT A PROPOSED EXPERIMENT.** A premier who could so reason, or an audience that could applaud such attempts at reasoning, should be submitted for examination to medical experts.

Not more happy has the Premier been in his statements that because we had a Reciprocity treaty between the Canada of 1854 and the United States of the same period, that we ought to accept this Reciprocity for the Canada of 1911, and accept it without question. This is to argue that because fifty years ago a man was sick and took strong medicine, that now fifty years later, when he is perfectly well, he should swallow a lot of the same strong physic. Having made the silly statement, straightway Sir Wilfrid proceeded to answer himself. He said that Canada in the meantime had changed, that she was now very different from what she was in 1854, and he declared she had never been so healthy in her life.

The complete answer lies in this statement. The conditions and the ideals of Canada have absolutely changed in the last forty years. Then she had no great West, no consolidated country, no considerable industrial development, no adequate system of transport and no home market of any account. She had raw products and wanted manufactured goods. The nearest and almost only market for both for her was the United States. These she wanted, these she needed, these she sought and finally obtained. For the time she had what she needed and derived advantage therefrom. **BUT NOW BOTH CONDITIONS AND IDEALS ARE DIFFERENT—ABSOLUTELY DIFFERENT.** Now we have a great West incorporated in a consolidated nation. Now we have a well established and diversified system of industries, admirable and extensive transport

facilities, and an invaluable protected home market which takes 80 per cent. of all our products.

Then our aim was and necessarily commanded us to convert our raw products into cash, and buy abroad the manufactured goods we needed. Now our aim is, and prudence and enlightened policy bid us, to finish our raw products for our own use and for export abroad, and to make up in Canada with Canadian labor and capital as much as possible of what we need to carry our products from one province to another on Canadian railways, and our import and export stuff through our own ports and by our own transport routes. On these changed conditions and ideals we have built up a great Canada, and on these we hope to build still greater.

What we wanted once, and what helped us then, we do not want now, and it would injure us to have it. Therein lies the answer to the Premier's plea that because we had Reciprocity in 1854-66 we should take it now in 1911. Thus we dispose of his three principal statements. For the rest of his arguments we have considered in a series of ill-basted attempts to meet objections urged by his opponents to the Reciprocity Pact, and will be dealt with in a later issue.

ST. JOHN WILL BE IN LINE.

The Conservative candidates in the two constituencies of the City and County of St. John are meeting with a magnificent reception from the electors wherever they go. The canvass of the city reveals the fact that a large number of Liberals will decline to follow party lines in this election, because they believe that Reciprocity will materially affect the commercial interests of St. John and the prosperity of the country, and they have assured both Dr. Daniel and Mr. Powell that they will cast their votes for them on the 21st of this month. The public meetings that have been held in the city and in various parts of the county show by their attendance the interest that is felt in the principal issue of the campaign.

It is many years since the ward and district meetings in this city and county have been so well attended or as energetic and enthusiastic as in the present campaign. Old and young men alike are attending these meetings, and the interest that is manifested presages victory on election day. Hundreds of the veterans of the party who have not been seen in a committee room since 1851 are as energetic and enthusiastic as the young men because they believe that the things they hold most dear are endangered by the Taft-Laurier compact on Reciprocity.

A campaign is being waged that can have but one result, the return by a large majority of the Conservative candidates. This statement is based on definite information already in the hands of the committees, but with victory plainly in view nothing is being taken for granted, but every effort is being put forward to bury out of sight for all future time, and render impossible the introduction into our politics of any such issue as that now presented to the people by Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Within the past week there has been a great change in the situation. The result of the change in public opinion shows very clearly that there will be no splitting of tickets on the 21st. The electors will vote for the men who are opposed to Reciprocity, and will uphold the winter trade of St. John. A strong effort has been made by the friends of Mr. Pugsley to induce Conservatives to give him a vote, because of the position he occupies as Minister of Public Works. At the beginning of the campaign such a canvass might have resulted favorably to Mr. Pugsley, but an investigation of his accomplishments in three years has convinced the electors that Mr. Pugsley is operating more in the interests of a small coterie of his political friends than in those of the city of St. John. His promises of 1908 have not been fulfilled, although a large sum of money has been expended, much of which has gone to enrich his friends instead of for the erection of wharves and other terminal facilities at this port. Because of his failure to carry out his pledges of 1908 no stock is taken in the promises that he now makes of other extensions to the harbor in Courtenay Bay.

Another factor which will prevent Mr. Pugsley procuring Conservative support is the clear cut statement of Mr. Borden in his speech at the Queen's Rink that the harbor works would be proceeded with under the Conservative party when returned to power, only on a larger scale than at present.

From all over Canada comes the encouraging news of Conservative gains. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has lost hundreds of prominent supporters in every section of the country. Not only have these men declined to follow him on his Reciprocity policy, but in many instances they are addressing public meetings against the unholy Taft-Laurier agreement. These men recognize that Canada has become prosperous by following out the lines laid down by Sir John A. Macdonald in 1878, by which protection was given to all classes of industry and a home market created which was afterwards supplemented by a transportation policy which opened up the great North West and made Canada what she is today.

To enter into a reciprocal trade arrangement with the United States now, would be an act of national suicide and would lead to a condition of commercial chaos which would destroy the prosperity of Canada for many years to come. These are among the reasons given by leading Liberals who refuse to follow Sir Wilfrid Laurier in his present campaign.

William Randolph Hearst, the New York friend of Laurier, is circulating tons of his newspaper in Canada free of charge. Why? Because he expects to influence the electors of this country through the medium of his yellow sheet to vote for Laurier and those supporting him on the Reciprocity issue. Canadians should remember that a few weeks ago Hearst in his paper said: "Reciprocity will really cut Canada into two countries. The section east of Lake Superior will merge with the New England States and the west will become part of the west of the United States." Later on he adds: "Reciprocity will do more than anything else to promote eventually the complete political and business union of the United States and of all the great territory north of it." Hearst is described by President Taft as "The Evangelist of Reciprocity."

Laurier and loyalty is now the cry of the "velled treason" party of 1891. Laurier may be loyal to Laurier, but he is a traitor to Canada.

Current Comment

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

Among the election lures held out by the Laurier Government are renewed promises that the Welland Canal will be reconstructed, the Georgian Bay Canal built, and the Hudson Bay Railway put through. But of what use will these highways be if the pact is established? The Grand Trunk Pacific is rushing branch lines to the border, and the Hill system is rushing lines from its side to the border. The interlacing of these two systems means diversion of through traffic from Canadian routes.

(Canadian Century.)

When you see the market reports of the big American cities, remember that both transportation charges and middlemen's profits must be deducted from them to ascertain what the Canadian farmer would get, and note that American middlemen export big profits.

MR. MURRAY REFUSES TO BE A CANDIDATE

Mr. Pugsley Compelled to Announce Fact at Campbellton Meeting—Restigouche will Support Mr. Montgomery.

Campbellton, Sept. 10.—Restigouche county and especially the town of Campbellton is supporting Mr. Montgomery, the Conservative candidate with earnest enthusiasm. Hon. William Pugsley announced before his arrival in Campbellton on Friday night that Wm. Murray who has been in the field with Mr. Reid as a Liberal candidate, would no longer contest the election. The honorable gentleman attempted to dodge the issue of announcing the resignation of Mr. Murray before the crowd of people in the Opera House, finally Mr. Duncan called Mr. Pugsley's attention to the fact that he had forgotten something. Mr. Pugsley then stated that owing to certain reasons which he would not disclose, Mr. Reid would run alone as the Liberal representative.

Mr. Montgomery returned last evening from Balmoral and the Tobique where he has been holding crowded meetings. When asked as to whether the resignation of Mr. Murray would make any difference, Mr. Montgomery said that it could have no effect on the result of the election. He went on to say that Reid had lost ground in every parish, and especially in his own parish of Colborne where in the last election he had received a large personal vote.

SIR THOMAS SHAUGHNESSY

"Reciprocity? I don't like the idea of it well enough to talk of it at all. If I had anything to say about it, it would not be favorable."

The Montreal Star well says that once Ontario comes to believe that Reciprocity jeopardizes British Connection it will be all off with Reciprocity.

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PREFERS HIS COUNTRY TO HIS PARTY

Life Long Liberal's Warning to Young Men—Sees Danger to Country in Graft of Party.

To the Young Men of New Brunswick.
The Daily Telegraph a few days ago appealed to you to vote for the Liberal candidates in this election.

As an old Liberal, one who has a long and active experience in the tricks and manners of that party, let me appeal to you not to allow yourselves to be misled by any specious party call. Like hundreds of Liberals, I am voting against the party I have supported all my life, on the question of reciprocity. I do so because I am convinced that the adoption of this measure will mean ruin for the city of St. John and for the splendid agricultural districts of New Brunswick. As a Liberal of experience let me say to the young men who are about to cast their first vote, that there is nothing in that party that need appeal to him. It has been in power some 15 years and its whole history has been marked by broken pledges and the following of a path which it has been difficult for old line Liberals to tread.

If you are a young man who looks to the Liberal party for personal advancement, I would remind you that the history of that branch of the political life of Canada, so far as New Brunswick is concerned, has been one of the most shameful and disgraceful record of the party. The Liberal party has been passed over time and again and the fat positions in the gift of the government have been handed over to Conservatives.

Permit me to remind the young men of this province, that the Liberal party, Mr. Pugsley, was a Tory up to the very moment that it became apparent that the Liberals would be returned to power and would in the course of the campaign, thus the leader of the Liberals is from the ranks of the enemy, as I first knew it. And I have this faith in Mr. Pugsley that if it suits his purpose, he will again be a Conservative after Sept. 21st.

Then there is the governor of the province, Hon. Mr. Tweedie, another who was taken from the Tory ranks and elevated to the highest office in the gift of the Liberal party. In the supreme court we have Mr. Justice White, a Conservative up to 1908.

Hon. Mr. LaBelle is another good old Tory that has been given preference by the Liberal party.

The representative of Canada in South Africa, Mr. Chesley, was formerly the Tory M. P. for St. John. George Robertson, who now presides over the savings bank in this city, is another of the fine old Tories that the Liberals have stood aside for.

In the senate we have two Tories represented by Hon. John Costigan, a member of the last Conservative cabinet, and a man who changed with the change of party.

I might go on and fill columns with the names of men who were placed in high positions by the Liberal party in this province, after they had fed at the Tory trough for years. But I have said enough on that score. The young men of the province are told that Mr. Pugsley has done much for St. John and New Brunswick. He has let great contracts. Who are the contractors, my young friends? Do you know of two men named Moore and McAvity? Do you know of any others in the Liberal party in this province that have fared so well? Further, do you know of any who have had any chance in competition with these gentlemen? Who have been most benefited by Mr. Pugsley's contracts? Have you? And is there much in store, think you, in the ranks of a party that character?

And let us not forget the editors of the Times and Telegraph. These men have been on both sides of the question and have stood on it waiting for developments. They are servants of the party with the largest purse and for them to advise you, my young friend, is to my mind, one of the laughable things in this campaign against United States domination.

I must apologize to the young voters for this letter. It is not my way of talking politics, but as the hirings of the Telegraph and the Times are thrown down the gullet in that fashion I take it up.

Young men of the province of New Brunswick, an old Liberal who prefers his country to his party, I solemnly warn you against the degrading appeals that have been made to you. Let me repeat to you, my young friends, in this province is about to close its record of opportunity. The day of handing over the places of trust in the offices of the government is almost at a close. In casting your first vote, let not the Telegraph or the Times, or party bias affect you. Stand by your King and your Flag, and vote for a continuation of that great prosperity, which I, a Liberal, have seen prosper to its present magnificent proportions.

And one word more. Don't worry about the development of St. John. Reciprocity means ruin to our shipping. Defeat the measure and the party in power at Ottawa may be looked to with confidence to care for St. John's interests. We have had many promises and few works from Dr. Pugsley. I say it again, based on experience, that the Liberal party is bankrupt today as the result of its adoption of reciprocity. Let Messrs. McAvity, Moore, et al, look after their own interests, and you, my young voters, look to yours. It is in this fight to be found in the Conservative party.

A LIFE-LONG LIBERAL.
St. John, N. B., Sept. 9, 1911.

"In my judgment the commerce of Canada should never be placed at the mercy of the United States Congress or of any other competing nation."
—Sir George Ross, before Toronto Canadian Club.

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Sussex, N. B., Sept. 10.—Hon. Geo. W. Fowler has completed a vigorous campaign tour of Albert County. On Thursday evening last Mr. Fowler addressed a most encouraging meeting at Hopewell Cape at which the chairman was Freeman Crocker. The following evening he spoke at Harvey where G. A. Cousin presided, and again on Saturday evening at Albert Mines when Patrick Sinclair occupied the chair. At all his meetings Mr. Fowler was given great receptions. The halls were decorated with flags and bunting, that at Albert Mines, where decorating was in the hands of twenty ladies, was particularly attractive, the chief feature being maple leaves. At each meeting besides great bursts of applause Mr. Fowler was the recipient of a handsome bouquet.

Everywhere Mr. Fowler has received great encouragement. The halls have been crowded and unvaried enthusiasm displayed, while large numbers of two voters have signified intention of deserting the Liberal ranks and casting their ballots in favor of British connection and clean government under the Conservatives.

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JANUARY 2, 1911.