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## FOOLING THE FARMERS ON TARIFF QUESTION

### The Hypocrisy of the Leading Liberal Organ—Will Not Give Freer Trade for Fear of Defeat—Comparison of Taft and Laurier—How the Liberals Neglected to Control Japanese Immigration

**The Globe and Free Trade.**

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's troubles in the West have had the effect of forcing a discussion on the question of free trade versus protection; and this discussion has had the effect of drawing the Globe out into the open. The Globe for years has been preaching free trade and supporting a strongly protectionist government; and has contrived to manage this running with the hare and hunting with the hounds with an air of superior virtue peculiar to its own. Of late, however, various Conservative journals have been drawing attention to this insincerity, and the Globe has been obliged to try to justify this inconsistency.

Driven into a corner, the Globe's plea in effect is, that it has been, and is, doing evil that good may come. The good that is to come is simply the retention of office by the Liberal party. If it frankly stood by its convictions and insisted on free trade the Liberal party would be defeated and the Conservatives would be returned to power. Therefore the Globe follows its alleged principals.

Here are the Globe's own words: "The dominant sentiment in Canada today would warrant the Liberal government in going to the country on a free trade policy. . . . Political necessities are stronger than economic."

Again it says: "An appeal to the country on the sole issue of absolute free trade would, under present conditions, mean defeat for a Liberal government." Office, that's the thing; Office at any cost! Where's the profit in making sacrifices for principle? Why be a home for lost causes be they never so noble?

People who desire lower tariff accordingly are given thoroughly to understand that there is no hope for any substantial lowering of the tariff. The Globe thinks as a matter of theory that the tariff should be lowered, but thinks and admits that the Laurier government does not intend to grant lower tariff and for the sake of office the Globe supports the Government which it knows to be protectionist. The average man will agree that this is partisanship run mad—or rather, run to sheer dishonesty.

The Globe insists that the return of the Conservatives to office would mean a much higher tariff. The indications point all the other way. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and not Mr. Borden, is in alliance with the trusts and corporations. The Premier, and not the Opposition leader, has bonused the iron and steel trade to the extent of upwards of a million dollars a year. If the Laurier government is sustained at the next general election it will be with the aid of the combines and corporations which he has favored.

**Laurier and Taft.**

The curious likeness between Sir Wilfrid Laurier's difficulties in the west and President Taft's troubles with insurgency has attracted a good deal of comment. In opposition, as one journal points out, Sir Wilfrid Laurier undertook "to eliminate the principle of protection from the tariff." Obtaining office, his government made one attempt at modifying some duties, but ever since the tendency of the tariff changes has been upwards. In the Presidential campaign of 1908 Mr. Taft and the Republicans undertook to revise the United States tariff downwards. Again returned to power the party management forgot his election promises, and the Payne tariff was the result. The parallel between the Liberal record at Ottawa and the Republican record at Washington is so striking that it has drawn this comment from The New York Evening Post:

We read of a statesman on his travels—or on his defence-explaining that the tariff which his party has passed was not the best possible, but at rate better than the one which is displayed. He admits also that "further revision" must be made, but first that the government must wait for a report of a tariff-investigating commission. This sounds very familiar, and we think ourselves perfectly at home, until we discover that it is Sir Wilfrid Laurier who is talking, and that it is the Canadian tariff which is in question.

The failure of the Taft Administration to keep its pledges has bred that formidable "insurgent" movement within the Republican ranks which threatens to cripple the party in the next election. In a similar manner thousands of old-time Canadian Liberals

must be revolt against the government's neglect to implement the provisions upon the strength of which it climbed into power. The position of official Republicanism is preferable to that of official Liberalism in this country, because the Republican party has always stood for a high tariff, while the Liberal leader preached reciprocity and low tariff and free trade for eighteen years before they ascended the treasury benches.

**Laurier and Japan.**

Sir Wilfrid Laurier at Vancouver described his position on Oriental immigration as highly statesmanlike; and being able to make his own selection of the facts, he managed to draw a very picture of prudent and broad minded diplomacy. Just about the same time at Truro Mr. Borden gave a statement of the real history of the question which mentions a great many facts that Sir Wilfrid Laurier somehow forgot to include in his speech. He said:

"In 1894 Japan negotiated treaties with Great Britain and the United States. They were in practically the same terms with a few important exceptions. The British treaty permitted unrestricted immigration from Japan but the United States treaty reserved the right to enact laws with respect to laborers coming from Japan to that country.

"Canada has the right to accede to the treaty or to decline to do so. There was then no general apprehension on the subject of immigration from Japan, but the Conservatism in power foresaw that country might become a source of menace to Canada. By order-in-council August 3rd, 1896, the Conservative government refused to accede to the treaty except upon the condition that we should retain full control of immigration, not only of laborers, but of artisans from Japan.

"On February 7, 1896, Japan agreed to restrict immigration from Japan, and on October 8, 1896, Japan finally agreed that Canada should also control the immigration of artisans; but in the meantime, July, 1896, the present government came into power. At first they declined to accept the treaty on the ground that it would restrict the fiscal freedom of Canada. Between 1896 and 1905 warnings as to the danger of immigration from Japan were conveyed to the government by labor organizations, by royal commissions, and by representatives from people of British Columbia. In 1905 the Laurier government suddenly concluded that Canada should become a party to the treaty and communicated this conclusion to the British government. The British authorities immediately reminded the Laurier government of the modification insisted on by the Liberal-Conservative government in 1896 and inquired whether Canada proposed to stand by that policy.

"This warning was first given by the British government on 14th July, 1905, and was repeated on 8th September, 1905, but on the 25th of September the government determined that Canada should assent to and be bound by the treaty absolutely and without reserve.

"Canada thus surrendered all control of the immigration of laborers and artisans from Japan.

"It need not dwell upon the subsequent results. Eventually through the aid and intervention of the British government a temporary arrangement has been arrived at by which the Japanese government undertakes to exercise over the emigration of laborers and artisans to Canada, the control which ought to be within the power of our own government and parliament.

"The Conservative policy as announced by our resolution in parliament declared that Canada should not accede to any treaty which deprived the Canadian parliament of the control of immigration into this country.

"And while expressing profound appreciation of the friendly intentions and courteous assurances of the Japanese government and while declaring its sincere desire for the most cordial relations with the Japanese people, the Conservative opposition nevertheless recorded its strong protest against a policy under which our wage earning population cannot be protected from destructive invading competition except by entreating the forbearance and aid of a foreign government."

the Laurier government is establishing. The New Westminster British Columbian calls "the get-away navy."

It seems that the ships of the Laurier navy are to be described as "H.M.C.S.," these letters signify "His Majesty's Canadian Ship." British warships are styled H.M.S. What does the addition of the "C." amount to? To this: That if a ship is "H.M.S." she will fight any enemy of the British Empire the instant war begins; whereas if she is "H.M.C.S." she must not fight, no matter how she must get away from the Empire, until she has received word of the passing of an order-in-council at Ottawa. That is what the addition of the word "Canadian" means.

## FRENCH'S REPORT

### Forecast by An Ottawa Journal—Approves of Retention of Volunteer System With Many Reforms

**OTTAWA, Sept. 10.**—The Ottawa Journal published yesterday certain details of what purports to be a forecast of General French's report on the state of the Canadian militia. In the Journal says, General French approves of the retention of the volunteer system, but condemns the headquarters staff as absurdly inadequate and makes many other criticisms and recommendations for reform.

The Journal says: "The report made by the Imperial Inspector-General on the whole approves of the retention of the volunteer system for Canada. Sir John French also approves the numbers aimed at by the existing Canadian system, viz.: a first line of 100,000 with provision for the ultimate organization of a second line also 100,000 strong. With this as his basis, he makes a large number of criticisms and suggestions.

**For Divisional Organization.**

"With regard to organization the reports favor the adoption of a divisional organization, instead of the present system of mapping the country into areas styled 'commands.' Sir John French's proposal is that the militia be formed into a series of divisions on the British model, each of three brigades of four battalions each, with a proper proportion of cavalry and artillery. He also notes that to do this there is not more than half enough of field artillery. Further, he dwells strongly on the need for drawing up extensive mobilization plans and urges the formation of a mobilization staff.

"On the question of the headquarters and district staffs Sir John French emphatically declares that the present staff is absurdly inadequate in point of numbers and urges strongly that it should be more numerous.

"He also declares that the officers who now command the staffs are, as a whole, are capable; they are, he observes, stronger on the administration side than on that of higher military education and that he makes some recommendations as to their improvement in this regard.

"Another important point on which he dwells is the training of the troops. As regards officers and non-coms, he pronounces the tests prescribed to be fairly satisfactory provided they are exacted. This he is disposed to doubt, and he declares emphatically for obliging every man who joins the militia as private, non-com. or officer, to render the full service which he contracts for.

**Training Insufficient.**

"As for the training of the troops in camp, he complains that commanding officers keep their squadrons and company officers too much in leading strings, so that the company and squadron work, which he describes as the foundation of efficiency, is imperfectly done.

"Among other things he insists that city corps should be trained in camp, in effect saying that they are not as suitable for service as the rural battalions.

"With regard to armament, Sir John French favors the Howitzer for Eastern Canada, as against the 4.7-inch guns with which the heavy artillery are armed. With regard to the Ross rifle he emphasizes the need for keeping the ammunition interchangeable with that used elsewhere in the Empire.

Sir John French urges the establishment of a central training camp on the lines of Petawawa. The latter camp he describes as the best in the Empire.

"The report warmly commends the cadet movement."

## LABOR AND IMMIGRATION

### Report on Immigration Discussed and Referred to Special Committee—Several Important Resolutions Presented

**PORT ARTHUR, Ont., Sept. 13.**—Immigration was the principal theme of discussion at this morning's session of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. Mr. W. R. Trotter of the Winnipeg Typographical Union, who has been one of the most prominent labor men in Canada for years, presented a long report on the subject, in which he laid special stress upon the necessity for restriction and for provision against exploitation. He severely criticized some of the schemes of immigration followed in the past and in the concluding portion of his report, said in part:

"It should be understood that no scheme detrimental to the interests of Canadian citizenship would be tolerated and Canadian citizenship must be held to include more than the manufacturer's association and their allied press scheme of Imperial labor exchange. No scheme can possibly be agreed to, which is not preceded by a system of provincial and Dominion exchanges, and any other arrangement would be open to a repetition of the scandalous shipping of the Salvation Army to British Columbia at 11,000 persons when there were 7,500 unemployed people in Toronto alone. It should be clear that our fight from now on is not so much against a number of the discredited societies as against the many schemes of the cloud of dividend hunting corporations, which have descended upon Canada, and whose agents, titled and otherwise, are much in evidence during the summer months.

The subject of immigration was referred by the congress to a special committee of Messrs. Rugg, Dennis, Lirry, Watt, Symons, and O'Donnahue to make a report before the close of the session.

An invitation was received by telegram from the Mayor of Vancouver to meet in that city next year. It will be considered with the other invitations later.

Several resolutions along various lines were received from different delegates and referred to the resolution committee for consideration. One of these called for legislation to improve the conditions for accommodation of men employed in lumber and construction camps.

**PORT ARTHUR, Ont., Sept. 13.**—James Booker, president of the Port Arthur Trades and Labor Council, offered a resolution asking for legislation for closing all bar-rooms on Labor Day. It will be considered with the resolutions that have gone to the resolution committee.

**PORT ARTHUR, Ont., Sept. 13.**—Although the Trades and Labor Congress is not in regular session this evening, more than fifty per cent. of the delegates are busy with the business of the organization, getting things in shape for the further conduct of the proceedings, which so far have gone on with such smoothness that more progress has been made than in the same period of time in previous conventions. Committees on resolutions, audit, immigration and officers' reports are all holding meetings and deliberation will be apparent when the delegates re-assemble in ordinary session tomorrow.

Many important resolutions were submitted and adopted at this afternoon's session, all calculated to further the ends of trades unionism in improvement of the working conditions under which productive labor is carried on.

Early in the afternoon a telegram was received from ex-president Jas. Simpson of Toronto, who is now in Quebec with the Technical Education Committee, conveying his greetings to the congress.

Mayor Beatty of London, telegraphed an invitation to the congress to hold the next meeting there. On Friday the officers will be elected. In a resolution offered by James Booker, of Port Arthur, the previous position of the congress in the matter of independent political action was re-affirmed, and the provincial executives accorded powers to deal with local situations that amounted practically to provincial autonomy.

The congress placed itself on record as in favor of the eight-hour day for letter carriers with double pay on Sunday and a radical change in uniforms which were described as unbecoming and torture-producing. One delegate said the winter uniform made the letter carriers look like monkeys; the uniforms should be regulated according to winter and summer.

On the initiative of W. Lodge of Ottawa, an effort will be made to get legislation providing for three eight-hour shifts in all concerns operating twenty-four hours a day, and attention

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**More Troops For Coronation**

LONDON, Sept. 13.—The arrangements for the coronation will include a larger representation of contingents of troops from Canada than on the last occasion. Probably Australia and South Africa, having also felt rapid expansion like that of Canada, will send impressive delegations. Colonial premiers and other officials will naturally receive invitations.

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