

The Advertiser

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Last Friday six of the Cabinet members met at Ottawa and discussed the coal question see if the Government could not do something to prevent a famine, for if something was not done there would be a coal famine in the large cities of the Dominion. After a lengthy discussion an order in council was passed granting a rebate of the freight charges on coal over the Intercolonial Railway to all Canadian municipalities that made purchases of Nova Scotia coal for sale at cost prices. This does not affect coal dealers or companies, but will merely assist these municipalities that are making efforts to guard against a coal famine. Mr. Blair was communicated with by telegraph. The freight charges on coal on the Intercolonial are three-tenths of a cent per mile. The municipalities will, therefore, have this amount refunded to them by the way of a rebate. The question of dealing with the duty on soft coal from the United States was not touched and will not be taken up until Sir Wilfred and Mr. Fielding returns.

The rebate which the Government has decided to allow to municipalities in coal freight rates on the Intercolonial amounts to a considerable sum. The distance from the Springhill collieries to Montreal about 716 miles, and from Sydney to Montreal, 989 miles. At the existing rate of three tenths of one cent per ton per mile the rebate on coal from Springhill to Montreal would, therefore, be \$2.14 per ton, and on coal from Sydney \$2.96 per ton.

TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES

At the Massachusetts' Republican convention held in Boston on the 3rd inst, Senator Lodge was heard in a speech in which he totally misrepresented the existing conditions between Canada and the States. If we take his word as the truth there is little hope of any successful trade negotiations ever being carried out. He said that negotiations for reciprocity with Canada were begun by President McKinley and broken off by Canada, that the Anglo American conference was adjourned not dissolved, with attempts made, no longer ago than last spring to reopen negotiations, and that Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Hay would make a treaty with Canada if it could be made. As the final shot at Canada he declared they will never surrender American soil in Alaska or anywhere else in order to do it.

According to his last statement gathered that our delegates went to Washington with the understanding that nothing would be done as regards reciprocity unless the United States yielded on the Alaskan boundary question. This is news to Canada as such a statement is untrue. Our delegates never asked them for an eighth of an inch of their soil. We have enough without wanting any of theirs and if they will come to an agreement, which is not wholly one sided, then this question will be settled for ever, but in regards Canada yielding one foot of her just rights in Alaska to please the United States, and if they wait until they do, then this question will never be settled.

It has been said that the Fitts' amendment presented on this evening was unpopular in this convention. Commenting on the Fitts' amendment, the Boston Herald says. "The commission came to a dead lock on the boundary question, and failing to agree on this every thing else went by the board." At the same time it admits that the business men of Massachusetts are earnestly in favor of reciprocity with Canada and calls attention to the fact that Mr. Foss, a Republican nominee for Congress, made it a leading feature in his platform.

Nor was Fitts amendment unpopular

in the convention, although it was turned down, for the Herald says the party platform would be more to the delegates liking if the reciprocity with Canada plank had been added. They consented to its rejection in deference to the party leaders, whose wisdom in thus putting weights on the safety valve is seriously doubted.

The New York Tribune of a recent date also had a few remarks on this same subject. This paper complains of discrimination. It says that the United States does not discriminate against Canada, while Canada does discriminate against the United States through the Tribune's article answers. It says the United States "has placidly acquiesced in Canada's undoubted right to make whatever tariff arrangement she pleases with the mother country, especially since in this case the arrangement is a step toward the adoption of our own principle of free trade among the members of the Union and protection against all the outside world."

The Review in discussing this subject says:—"It is altogether statesmanlike for the Canadian government to seek markets in England and on the European continent, and to promote plans for steamship lines, whether to England or to France. But Canada's highest prosperity would come under a scheme of bold and generous reciprocity with the United States, looking toward an ultimate policy of commercial union rather than toward a probable resumption of commercial hostilities. Sir Wilfred Laurier, with his broad views, his great prestige, his popularity with both races in the Dominion, and his recognition in Washington, London and Paris, as well as in Ottawa, as one of the foremost statesmen of our day, is the man with whom President Roosevelt's administration ought to be able to negotiate a reciprocity treaty that would insure to the permanent prosperity of the whole of North America."

Whether the Tribune's statement in regards discrimination is correct or not it ought to be adopted. That country arranges its tariff in view of its own interest and why shouldn't we? We have the same right to give preference to the productions of Great Britain as the States do for each other's.

We wish to develop our trade in all directions with the United States as well as with European countries, but if the States or any other country are not willing to trade with us on a fair and equitable basis then the people of Canada will have to determine on what basis they will trade. Their high tariff wall has curtailed our markets in that country and it would not be a serious matter for Canada to relinquish the trade all together. For the past ten or fifteen years Canada has made the first advances and each time all matters of reciprocal arrangements were met with a cold reception at Washington. As such was the case it was taken for granted that our cousins did not want to make arrangements, therefore our heads have been turned elsewhere and has resulted with splendid returns. As Laurier stated at the last convention we made the first and last step now their next.

GOVERNMENT SANATORIUM

Last Friday we announced that the tenders for the erection of Government Sanatorium to be built by the Provincial Government on the northern boundary of this town had been awarded to Mr. Geo. Reeves. It seems that the tenders have not as yet been awarded. As in the case of the tenders for the erection of the Court House, they are greatly in excess of the figures estimated. There have been three tenders received and running as high as \$23,000. The plans may be altered somewhat.

The proposed building is to be 2 stories in height, with a pitched roof, and will be of wood, shingled. The front will be about 115 feet in width and will contain many windows. On each end of the front, or corner of the building, will be large semi-circular towers running from the ground up, and between these towers, on the ground floor, will be a wide verandah, in the centre of which will be the main entrance. There will be a terrace in front of the verandah.

The main entrance double doors are to be of oak and glass, prettily designed and with handsomely arranged lights above them. The depth of the building will be about 115 feet, but the structure will not be square, a portion of the depth being taken up by a large ell on the back.

The plans provide for a handsome and substantial fire-place and mantle in the hallway facing the entrance, the fire place being of brick and the mantle and trimmings of oak.

On the first floor will be situated the kitchen, 14 ft. 6 in. by 17 ft. 8 in.; consulting room, 12 by 12; physicians room, 10 by 12; sitting room, 10 by 10; laboratory, linen, bath and store rooms. The bedrooms on this floor are along the front of the building and in the tower. The fittings of the sitting room are to include a book-case, and mantle of oak and a large seat to match, and a fire-place of brick.

On the second floor will be eleven bedrooms, situated, as on the lower floors in the front of the house. The front of one of the towers will be fitted up as a sun room, and will have sun-shine most of the day. On this floor there will be also the 'matron's' nurses' and servants' rooms, night kitchen and baths. A balcony will run along the front of the building on the outside, on a level with the second floor.

In the rear, on a level with the ground floor, will be a small conservatory with side and roof of glass and fitted with flower benches.

The bedrooms will vary from 9 to 12 feet square.

The building will be fitted with electric light and bells.

The floor under the roof will be used for store rooms, etc.

In the basement there is to be fitted up a cold storage room for meats, food stuffs, etc. It will have walls of cement, which are to be filled with saw-dust.

The grounds about the building will be as prettily arranged as possible and the whole establishment will be thoroughly up-to-date.

OBITUARY

Daniel M. Hilsley

The death of Daniel M. Hilsley took place at Billtown, on Saturday morning at the advanced age of 82 years. He had been sick only nine days. He left a family of two daughters and one son; Mrs. Arthur Parker, and Mrs. H. P. Sweet of Billtown and Lewis who resides on the farm. The funeral services were held at the house on Tuesday at 1:30 p. m. and afterwards at the Baptist church. The address was given by Rev. E. Crowell of Yarmouth assisted by Pastor Simpson. A large number were present to pay their last tribute of respect to the aged and most respected resident. The underbearers were Messrs Leonard Porter, Z. West Edwin Palmer and Judson Card.

The Baptist church was well filled on Sunday evening last to hear the excellent discourse of Rev. C. H. Day, and the special music provided. The solo by Miss Holland was rendered in usual pleasing manner. The violin solo by Mr. Harrington was a beautiful selection and played in a way that held the closest attention of the audience. Mr. Harrington has played several times before but never so sweetly as on this occasion.

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