

# Borden's Tour

(By The Guide Special Correspondent)  
 At Maple Creek on Friday afternoon, June 23, Mr. Borden addressed an audience of 200 people from a platform erected in the centre of a pretty grove of maple trees. The usual speeches were delivered, but interest was given to the proceedings by a statement made by D. J. Wylie, the Conservative member for Maple Creek, in the Saskatchewan legislature, as to his position on reciprocity. Mr. Wylie, with all the other members of the Saskatchewan legislature voted in March for a resolution approving of the reciprocity pact, but he stated on Friday that the matter was sprung upon the legislature suddenly and was not given sufficient consideration. The matter had, however, been discussed a great deal since, and after hearing Mr. Borden and the other members of his party he was sure many others as well as himself would change their minds.

The citizens of Medicine Hat turned out in great numbers to greet the leader of the opposition, bands, motor cars, bouquets and addresses of welcome being again a feature of the reception, and after the public meeting in the curling rink, which was one of the best of the tour so far, a natural gas was "blown off" for the benefit of the visitors who were duly impressed by the great jet of flame which poured from a three inch pipe fifty feet into the air.

Next afternoon Macleod was visited, and here for the first time wet weather interfered with the plans which had been made. A picnic had been arranged by the local unions of the U. F. A. at which Mr. Borden was to have been the principal speaker, but a heavy rain accompanied by a cold piercing wind caused the abandonment of the picnic and the removal of the meeting to the public hall.

### Mr. Herron's Attitude

Especial interest was given to the meeting at Macleod by the fact that there is considerable difference of opinion among the adherents of both political parties on the reciprocity issue. Mr. John Herron, the Conservative member for the constituency, has stated through the press that he believes 90 per cent. of the voters in the constituency are in favor of reciprocity, and that if a vote were taken in Parliament he would feel it his duty to support the agreement, but nevertheless he thinks an election should be held in order that the people as a whole should be able to pronounce upon the question before the agreement goes into force. Mr. Herron was taken to task by the local Conservative association a few days ago, but repeated his statement and said he was convinced that he had accurately gauged public opinion in the district. It was with considerable interest, therefore, that the audience listened to Mr. Herron when he was called upon by the chairman at the opening of the public meeting, it being expected that he would publicly announce his position in the presence of his leader. In this, however, the audience was disappointed, Mr. Herron stating that he considered it would be unfair for him to state his position until his constituents had heard both sides of the question.

### The Farmers' Presentation

Before the other speeches an address was presented to Mr. Borden by Mr. E. J. Fream, secretary-treasurer of the U. F. A., in which the views of the organized farmers were set out along the lines of the Ottawa platform, special reference being made to the desire of the farmers that the reciprocity agreement between the United States and Canada should be ratified by Parliament. Mr. Borden's reply was the usual one, that he was in accord with the farmers on everything except the tariff and reciprocity, and he indignantly denied the imputation which he professed to find in the address that he was insincere in his opposition to reciprocity. Mr. Fream was given the privilege of briefly addressing the meeting after Mr. Borden had spoken, and assured Mr. Borden that there had been no intention to suggest that he was insincere, the members of the U. F. A. merely wishing to place their views before the leader of the Opposition as they had before members of the government and to ask what they could expect both parties to do in the matter.

### Some Opposition

The fact that all the members of the U. F. A. are not in favor of reciprocity was shown by the speeches of J. H. Turner

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THE GUIDE IS DESIGNED TO GIVE UNCOLORED NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF THOUGHT AND ACTION and honest opinions thereon with the object of aiding our people to form correct views upon economic, social and moral questions, so that the growth of society may continually be in the direction of more equitable, kinder and wiser relations between its members, resulting in the wisest possible increase and diffusion of material prosperity, intellectual development, right living, health and happiness.

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# CHEAP EXCURSIONS

## TO THE Government Farms Indian Head, Sask., July 18th and 19th

Rates for the round trip are away below the price of a single fare at ordinary times. Special trains will be run on **TUESDAY, JULY 18**, from the No. line, the Outlook branch, the Main line from Swift Current to Indian Head, and the Arcola line.

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and A. R. McFadden, both officers of the Hazelmere Local Union, who declared themselves strongly opposed to the pact. Mr. Turner also presented a petition signed by 40 farmers of the Macleod constituency in opposition to reciprocity and read a cablegram which he had received from Right Hon. Austen Chamberlain, president of the British Tariff Reform League, which has recently published a pamphlet on the Canadian-United States reciprocity question, saying that the Cobden Club carries no weight in England and that it was impertinence on the part of that club to interfere in Canadian affairs by publishing a circular on the question. Mr. Turner also asked a number of questions of Mr. Borden as to the Japanese treaty, the granting of large areas of land to some unnamed individuals and the attitude of the Opposition on the Canada Grain bill, but Mr. Borden entirely ignored Mr. Turner and his questions and made no reference to them in his speech.

### HIGH RIVER MEETING

Mr. Borden opened the second week of his tour with meetings at Calgary and High River. After spending a quiet Sunday at Lethbridge, the party reached Calgary on Monday morning, June 26,

and there Mr. Borden unlocked the door of the new city hall with a golden key before returning to High River for an afternoon meeting.

At High River the members of the United Farmers of Alberta were out in strong force, and of the crowds that greeted Mr. Borden at the station fully one-half wore on their coats a white ribbon on which was printed "U. F. A. Reciprocity." Even Mayor Wallace, who presented a civic address of welcome to Mr. Borden on behalf of the town council, wore this badge, which made more obvious what, however, was no less true at every other point visited by the Opposition leader, that the generous and cordial reception which is being accorded to Mr. Borden carries with it neither endorsement nor rejection of his attitude on public questions. The views of the members of the U. F. A. in the High River district were presented to Mr. Borden through the chairman of the meeting, A. A. Ballarthy, who stated that as the resolutions were somewhat lengthy and were similar to those presented to Mr. Borden at other points, he would not read them. The speeches of Mr. Borden, G. H. Perley and Andrew Broder, were also similar to those which had been delivered by those gentlemen at previous meetings, and they were listened to by a patient and orderly, but plainly unsympathetic audience so



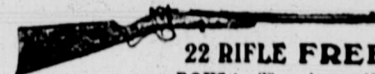
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far as the question of reciprocity was concerned.

### Initiative and Referendum

Mr. Borden invited questions at the conclusion of his speech, but when Mr. James Hogg, a member of the U. F. A. asked for a definite answer on a number of points interesting to the farmers, both Mr. Borden and the chairman complained of the strain that was being put on Mr. Borden's voice and said it was a pity the questions had not been handed in in writing prior to the meeting. Mr. Borden answered the questions, however. On the Initiative, Referendum and Recall he stated that he was keeping an open mind. On any great question affecting the whole country he thought it was desirable that the voice of the people should be obtained either by the Referendum or in some other way. The usual method at present in this country was by a general election, and he was glad to know that Mr. Hogg agreed with the Opposition party in desiring to submit reciprocity to the people.

### Watered Stock

Mr. Borden said he proposed to prevent the formation of mergers which enhanced prices by appointing a tariff commission to report upon such matters, and as to the watering of stock he told how the G. T. P. had been permitted by the government to issue \$25,000,000 of watered stock, which he had strongly opposed. Mr. Hogg asked for a more definite statement on this point, saying his question was not as to what Mr. Borden had done in the past, but whether if he were placed in power he would bring in a bill which would prevent the issue of watered stock, and Mr. Borden then said, "I am prepared to bring in any measure that is necessary to prevent it."

### Steamship Subsidies

Asked if he would abolish steamship subsidies, Mr. Borden gave a decided "No," saying there were a large number of people in Nova Scotia who depended on subsidized steamers to give them communication with other parts of the province, and he would not think of taking away the aid that was given to them.

### Protection, not Bounties

As to bounties to manufacturers, he said he was in favor of giving the encour-