

RECIPROCITY WITH CANADA IS MIGHTY GOOD FOR MAINE

Apostle of the Open Door Advances
Strong Reasons Why State
Should Take Up Agitation.

Portland, Me., April 9.—(Special.)—Henry M. Whitney, who was Democratic candidate for governor of Massachusetts on a reciprocity platform, addressed the Maine Democratic Club here to-night on that subject.

He referred to the fact that Maine was the home of "the earliest and ablest advocate of reciprocity," Hon. Jas. G. Blaine, and said:

"It is understood that Mr. Blaine, while secretary of state, made a proposition to the government of Canada for free and unrestricted reciprocity. This meant that Mr. Blaine had in mind a trade of reciprocity that should make a treaty between Canada and the United States as free as it is between the States of the Union. But the government of the Dominion of Canada was at that time in the hands of the Conservative party, corresponding to the Republican party of the United States—a high tariff party, practically hostile to reciprocity with the United States; and nothing came from the suggestion of the distinguished secretary. But even at that time the Liberal party in Canada, which five years later came into power and has remained in power from that day to this, was strongly in favor of the Blaine proposition. Touching this matter, their leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, since 1896 the premier of the Dominion, had this to say in the year 1897 (quote from a speech of Sir Wilfrid made in Toronto):

"Why, Mr. Chairman, the British people will not to-day go back on the policy of free trade which they have adopted, and Canada is not in a position at this moment, with the large revenue which she has to collect, to adopt any other tariff than a revenue tariff at best. So that the conditions are not equal upon which you can form a closer commercial alliance between Canada and Great Britain; but there is alongside of us a kindred nation economically situated as we are—the United States—and we claim that commercial alliance, which is possible with the United States, and the policy which we have advocated, which we still continue to advocate, is the removal of all commercial barriers between this country and the great kindred nation to the south of us. Now, Sir, there is not a man in this audience, there is not a man in Canada, who ventures to say, who if he were to speak the honest conviction of his heart, would not say that this is the most advantageous policy to Canada."

What Mr. Whitney said in this way, if he secures even a little bit of reciprocity, it will be so much done. We will take fresh courage and look for more, because I tell you this Liberal party will never cease the agitation until they triumph and obtain continental free trade."

"I think it not too much to say that if Mr. Blaine had been living, and secretary of state, or had been succeeded by a statesman of equally broad views, at the time of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's accession to power, and at the time of his visit to Washington in 1897 for the purpose of offering reciprocity to the United States—on somewhat the same basis, as compared with the proposition of Mr. Blaine—I say, I think it entirely probable that some measure of reciprocity would then have been agreed upon which would have been of untold benefit to the people of both the United States and Canada."

"The advantage to New England of a trade proposition appeals strongly to our people. In my own experience I find hardly a dissenting voice among

our business men as to its benefit to New England interests."

"The area of the State of Maine is larger than that of all the other New England States, together numbering something more than 75,000 square miles; but the Province of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia contain nearly an equal area, in addition to which is the Province of Quebec, containing upwards of 150,000 square miles, at least one-half of which is probably well suited for cultivation. I know of no reason why this territory, covering an area of 200,000 to 250,000 square miles, may not ultimately come to be populated as thickly as the State of New Hampshire, which is between 45 and 60 square miles, and is a marvel to me that the political attitude of the State of Maine for the past fifty years has been in such direct opposition to what would seem to be the best interests of all your people."

Of Slow Growth.

"Since 1860 the growth of the state has been astonishing slow. No other state in the union, save only Vermont, shows an increase in population. While the population of the United States as a whole has increased 150 per cent, in the forty years from 1860 to 1900, that of the state of Maine has increased but a trifle more than 10 per cent. During the decade from 1890 to 1900 some improvement is shown, but aside from the growth of 30 per cent, in the population of Portland during that period, the average for the whole state was only 3 per cent, while the increase on the average of the country was upwards of 20 per cent."

"Is there any remedy for this condition of things? None, I believe, except that the trade which is naturally tributary to the state, and which the State of Maine can in some way be opened to them and that a more equitable adjustment of tariffs upon mechanics may find its profitable engagement in the production of such goods as are needed over the great and extensive territory that is now being settled in the Canadian Northwest."

"This harbor of yours is the natural gateway thru which with free and unrestricted intercourse the commerce of that vast region tributary to the Grand Trunk system might pass to and fro to the outside world. It is the eastern terminus of what is destined to be one of the great transportation systems of the world. It is in the direct interest of this system that trade shall be carried over the whole of the line to the City of Portland, and hence all the influence of the great corporation will be directed to that end. It goes without saying that the Grand Trunk will wish to haul the whole length of their line. In addition to this is the important fact that the distance to the tidewater on the Atlantic is very much less via Portland than by way of the Atlantic ports in the Dominion. It is barely 250 miles from Montreal to Portland, while it is nearly 500 miles to St. John, N.B., and upwards of 700 to Halifax."

Duties to Come Off.

Remove the duties from things mainly produced by your Canadian neighbors, and allow your people to trade freely in them, and the era of prosperity would at once begin. If the wheat and barley of Canada could be brought to Portland without having to pay a tax of 25 cents a bushel on wheat and about \$1.50 a barrel on flour, you could buy and sell Canadian wheat and flour in considerable quantities. And so likewise with other articles of Canadian produce. There is a tariff tax at the border on potatoes, 45 cents; corn, per bushel, 15 cents; cornmeal, per bushel, 20 cents; per bushel, 20 cents; oatmeal, per bushel, 20 cents; peas, per bushel, 25 cents; butter, per dozen, 6 cents; beef and mutton, per head, \$1.50; hogs, \$3.00 and upwards; beans, per bushel, 25 cents; cabbages, each, 3 cents; peas, green, per bushel, 25 cents; peas, dry, per bushel, 30 cents; onions, per bushel, 40 cents; fish, per pound, 5 cents.

So long as these duties remain, trade in these articles produced by your neighbors will be extremely limited. On the other hand, so long as there is a tariff tax at the border on everything that the Canadian neighbors of yours might like to export in exchange for their own products, their purchases in your market will be limited also. But remove the tariff barriers on both sides of the line and you will see quite a different condition of things.

"The City of Portland would become to a large extent the depot for retailing the produce of the country, and a thousand and one things that constitute and summarize commerce over wide areas and on an extended scale."

"And who are they that object to a policy so fraught with advantage to the commercial welfare of the state? Only those people, worshippers of the high tariff fetish, who hold that a tariff barrier should be removed, no matter how large concern it may be to a multitude of people. If there is a remote possibility that even one of the beneficiaries of the present tariff system might be injuriously affected thereby. They have no hesitation in removing the barrier to the interest of the many to the fancied interests of the few. In Massachusetts, although less than one-quarter of one per cent of our wage earners are engaged in deep sea fishing, not more than one per cent are directly or indirectly concerned in the fishing industry, the fishing interests have been permitted to dominate the policy of the government as concerns the trade relations with Canada and Newfoundland. They have deliberately sacrificed the interests of 99 per cent of our people for a doubtful advantage to one per cent."

"I have been told that it might affect the potato industry. Now, the State of Maine is not without competition even in her potato industry, and the opening of our markets to the Canadian markets would attract the question of price but very little, but the other items of farm products, the farmers of Maine hardly raise enough to supply the home demand."

"Then as to the persons engaged in manufacturing and mechanical pursuits: I believe there is not one single person in the State of Maine that would be unfavorably affected by the open door of trade between Canada and the United States. Remember that we are not now speaking of free and unrestricted trade with a country like England or Germany, whose people are chiefly occupied in manufacturing, but with a country where manufacturing enterprises are few and mainly inferior."

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TAKEN CAPTIVE.

CEYLON TEA

A FIRST TRIAL WILL CAPTIVATE YOUR TASTE

Sold only in sealed lead packets at 25c, 30c, 40c, 50c and 60c per lb.
By all Grocers. Highest award St. Louis, 1904.

liness to the mother country gave her a preferential of 33.1-3 per cent. She has succeeded in establishing markets for herself and is largely now independent of the United States. In the interest of her people, as a whole, she is likely to remain a low tariff country as compared with the existing tariff of the United States. It is evident that she is willing to meet the Canadian tariff on a level with the tariff of the United States. This means that any considerable trade with Canada is dependent upon a revision of the tariff, placing upon the free list many of the articles of Canadian production. If we simply open our doors and allow this trade to come to us, we can have as much of it as we will. We might almost have had a monopoly of this business, if we had been willing to take it when it was freely offered, but our official representatives were utterly opposed to it."

A Fair Tariff.

"They tell us that the reason we need the protective system at all is to equalize the labor conditions between the United States and other countries where labor is less well rewarded than in this country. No one that I know of objects to a tariff based on that principle. Without undertaking to go very much into details, the tariff as it stands at the present time, as far as it relates to the cost of labor in the given product and make this the basis of a fair measure of protection. Referring to the census report, I find that the wages paid in all the iron and steel industries of the country, and their various products of pig iron, structural iron, amounting to \$381,875,490, while the value of the product was \$1,793,490,908, showing that the wages paid were 22 per cent of the value of the product. Now, assuming that this represents double the rate of wages paid a like industry on the other side of the water, it would follow that the labor cost of the same things abroad would be 11 per cent of the value of the product. And therefore the 11 per cent represents a fair measure of protection necessary to equalize labor, if any were really to equalize labor, it would be 11 per cent on the average."

An Independent Revision.

"I have this to say with reference to revision of the tariff. If it is admitted to be impossible that we can get the trade of our neighbors in Canada thru any treaty of reciprocity, then the only way for us to get the trade that we ought to have, and must have, is thru an independent revision of our own tariff, placing many of the articles produced in Canada on the free list and opening to this extent the door of trade. The reduction of the tariff on both sides of the line and you will see quite a different condition of things."

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"Not being able to trade with the United States on fair terms, she set to work to develop her trade in other directions, and as evidence of her friend-

"They tell us that the reason we need the protective system at all is to equalize the labor conditions between the United States and other countries where labor is less well rewarded than in this country. No one that I know of objects to a tariff based on that principle. Without undertaking to go very much into details, the tariff as it stands at the present time, as far as it relates to the cost of labor in the given product and make this the basis of a fair measure of protection. Referring to the census report, I find that the wages paid in all the iron and steel industries of the country, and their various products of pig iron, structural iron, amounting to \$381,875,490, while the value of the product was \$1,793,490,908, showing that the wages paid were 22 per cent of the value of the product. Now, assuming that this represents double the rate of wages paid a like industry on the other side of the water, it would follow that the labor cost of the same things abroad would be 11 per cent of the value of the product. And therefore the 11 per cent represents a fair measure of protection necessary to equalize labor, if any were really to equalize labor, it would be 11 per cent on the average."

"I have this to say with reference to revision of the tariff. If it is admitted to be impossible that we can get the trade of our neighbors in Canada thru any treaty of reciprocity, then the only way for us to get the trade that we ought to have, and must have, is thru an independent revision of our own tariff, placing many of the articles produced in Canada on the free list and opening to this extent the door of trade. The reduction of the tariff on both sides of the line and you will see quite a different condition of things."

"The City of Portland would become to a large extent the depot for retailing the produce of the country, and a thousand and one things that constitute and summarize commerce over wide areas and on an extended scale."

"And who are they that object to a policy so fraught with advantage to the commercial welfare of the state? Only those people, worshippers of the high tariff fetish, who hold that a tariff barrier should be removed, no matter how large concern it may be to a multitude of people. If there is a remote possibility that even one of the beneficiaries of the present tariff system might be injuriously affected thereby. They have no hesitation in removing the barrier to the interest of the many to the fancied interests of the few. In Massachusetts, although less than one-quarter of one per cent of our wage earners are engaged in deep sea fishing, not more than one per cent are directly or indirectly concerned in the fishing industry, the fishing interests have been permitted to dominate the policy of the government as concerns the trade relations with Canada and Newfoundland. They have deliberately sacrificed the interests of 99 per cent of our people for a doubtful advantage to one per cent."

"I have been told that it might affect the potato industry. Now, the State of Maine is not without competition even in her potato industry, and the opening of our markets to the Canadian markets would attract the question of price but very little, but the other items of farm products, the farmers of Maine hardly raise enough to supply the home demand."

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