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Fiscal Reform.

A correspondent writing from Ottawa to
the London Times thus discusses the matter
of preference within the Empire:—

"Canadians do not believe that the growth
and prosperity of the Dominion depends on
the preferential treatment of her food stuffs
in the old country. They know that Canada
is prosperous, and believe that she will con-
tinue so, whether she gets a preference or
not. They are quite aware of the advantages
of a possible reciprocity treaty with the
United States, but even though the Liberal
party, which for many years advocated reci-
procity with that nation, be in power, there
is no inclination to renew negotiations with
Washington on this subject. But Canada's
trade will expand, and if she does not get a
preference for her food stuffs in the markets
of Great Britain her geographical situation
must eventually lead her, even against her
will, to closer trade relations with the Uni-
ted States. Times have changed, too, in the
United States, and signs are not wanting
there to show that Canada would now have
little difficulty in obtaining some kind of
reciprocity. The public of the United States
was never more aware than it is today of the
vast resources of the Dominion and of the
benefits that would result from closer trade
relations. Canada, however, would much
rather develop her trade on Imperial lines,
both for sentimental reasons and because she
has bitter recollections of the abrogation of
the reciprocity treaty of 1854 and of hostile
tariffs and unfriendly legislation generally.

"What seems to have been largely lost
sight of in England is that, while the great
majority of people in Canada firmly believe
that Great Britain must adopt some measure
of protection for the sake of her own indus-
tries, and also that an arrangement of inter-
Imperial preferences will be mutually bene-
ficial to the Empire, the Canadian contention
is that the people of the mother country
must be the arbiters in the discussion now
raging on the fiscal question. Canada will
not seem to force matters by a decidedly ex-
pressed opinion, partly because she recog-
nizes that the British taxpayer is the party
chiefly concerned, and partly because she is
sensitive of being placed in the position of
urging something which will be undoubtedly
beneficial to herself. Those in England who
insist on harping on Mr. Chamberlain's pro-
posals as a sacrifice by the mother country to
the Colonies are chiefly to blame for this ap-
parently apathetic view of such an important
question. In 1897 Canada freely gave a
preference to British goods. It is now for
the British public to decide whether the
mother country can benefit herself by alter-
ing her fiscal policy, and endeavour to consoli-
date the Empire by giving certain preferences
to her kith and kin across the seas. Canada
is far from apathetic; she is loyally anxious
for closer Imperial relations and for what
she considers the true welfare of the mother
country and of the Empire as a whole.

Port Simpson.

Sufficient time has elapsed to obtain au-
thentic information as to the practical result
of the awarding of Kanguhnut and Sitklan
Islands to the United States. The intrinsic
value of these islands is inconsiderable, and
interest from the first has centred on their
relation to Port Simpson, the projected ter-
minus of the Grand Trunk Pacific. It has
been feared that ownership of these islands
by the United States would render Port
Simpson untenable in a military sense,
should there ever be trouble between Canada
and the United States, and also might inter-
fere with the defence of the harbor against
another power such as Russia.

The information which is forthcoming is
reassuring. The American islands are much
lower than Wales Island, the Canadian soil
which is nearest to them. Wales Island, in-
deed, possesses great natural military strength.
It is of bold outline, and rises to a height of
1,400 feet above the sea. Sitklan, the near-
er of the American islands, rises only 350
feet above the sea. Moreover, from the
highest point on Wales to the highest point
on Sitklan is only four and a half miles—an
easy range for heavy guns should we ever
have occasion to mount any there. Kangu-
hnut is an insignificant, long, low-lying
island, in no place rising to a height of
over 100 feet. The two American islands
thus are thoroughly dominated by Wales Island.
Furthermore, Wales Island is fourteen and a
half miles from shore to shore from Port
Simpson, and its lofty eminence is so placed
as to command the entrances and exits, such
as Dixon Channel, to the harbor. In the
event of it being desired to protect the har-
bor by submarine mines, Sitklan and Kan-
guhnut lie well outside the limit.

Recent reports, however, are not alto-
gether favorable to Port Simpson as our
second great western gateway. In all prob-
ability, it is a question of railway grades, and
that sea-port will be chosen which can be
reached most easily by the locomotive.
Viewed strictly from the sailor's standpoint,
Port Simpson is not the perfect haven which
it has been represented to be. It is exposed
to westerly gales, and the harbor and anchor-
age are not of the best. In addition, the
town-site is described as bad. Kitimaat Arm
presents a channel which is deep and not

difficult. Its harbor would provide plenty of
wharfage accommodation; indeed, with the
inner harbor six miles of frontage could be
obtained. The town-site also is good. In
any event Kitimaat would have the great
advantage of being somewhat retired from
the boundary of a foreign power. It is now,
however, primarily a matter of railway
grades.

Review of Live Stock Trade.

The live stock industry of Canada has not
fallen behind during the past. It has stead-
ily forged ahead.

In the early part of the year the prices
paid in the United States for cattle, hogs and
sheep were considerably higher than the
Canadian feeder received for his stock.
Gradually Canadian prices increased, and
now at the close of the year the Canadian
feeder is in the comfortable position of re-
ceiving more for his stock than his neighbor
across the line.

The lower prices that prevailed eighteen
months ago made the Canadian farmer feel
despondent. The welcome change that has
come over the trade makes the Canadian
cheerful. An other favorable feature of this
trade is the great increase of live stock cattle
that left Canadian ports for Great Britain
during the expired eleven months of this
year. In 1902 the total was 85,899. This
season the number was 181,540, a marvelous
increase, although a large number or these
were Western States cattle. It must be
borne in mind, however, that there have
been heavy shipments of Canadian cattle
from the ports of Boston and Portland, tend-
ing to balance the account. In the same
period Canadian sheep increased from 47,
733 to 71,891.

The passing year in the United States live
stock industry has not been propitious for
the feeders. They bought the young stock
at high figures and have been compelled to
sell the finished product at unremunerative
prices. It has been practically demonstrated
by many feeders that soft corn will not fat-
ten cattle to return any profit. The shrink-
age in values of live stock in the United
States this past season has been momentous.
In the large state of Texas the amount is
computed at \$140,000,000. In Kansas which
has suffered least, is estimated at \$11,000,
000.

The Argentine Republic has forwarded a
larger supply of fresh beef and mutton to
Great Britain than during the eleven previous
months, together with a large output of live
cattle and sheep during the two months the
port was open to her. This year is likely to
be the last that the Argentine Republic will
be permitted to ship live stock in England.

The farmers of England and Scotland have
been saved from heavy losses through turn-
ing arable lands into pasturage. The wet
season which they have passed through in-
jured their wheat and barley to a large
extent; they will be able to feed to advan-
tage their damaged grain to growing live stock.

Looking back over the past year, it is with
pardonable pride that The World can assure
the farmers of the Dominion of Canada that
they have kept abreast of the times, and that
their lot has fallen upon pleasant places and
that their live stock industry is being estab-
lished on a firmer foundation.

Profited by The Hint.

An extremely precise old gentleman was
seated with a friend under the veranda at the
back of his house enjoying an after-dinner
cigar. Presently his guest, having reached
the end of his Havana, threw the stump on
the lawn and lighted another.

"What made you throw your cigar-end
down there?" grumbled the old gentleman.
"See how unsightly it looks on the nice short
grass."

"Don't see it does much harm," rejoined
the friend. "Surely nobody would notice a
little thing like that?"

"My dear boy," said the old gentleman,
solemnly, "it is just these little things that
constitute tidiness, and tidiness is half the
comfort of life."

The friend said no more, but presently he
got up hurriedly, went out, was absent for
fully twenty minutes, and then returned and
sat down again.

"Where on earth have you been?" asked
his host.

"Only across the meadow to spit in the
river."

Giving Value to Waste Material.

A few years ago brickmakers in Toronto
threw away as useless a considerable quantity
of what are known as "clinker bricks," i. e.,
bricks uneven in color and shape and ex-
hibiting protuberances on their surfaces.
These peculiarities are due to the bricks be-
ing placed in the arch of the kiln where they
are exposed to the greatest heat. An archi-
tect in looking one day at a pile of these
refuse bricks thought he saw possibilities in
them, and forthwith bought sufficient of them
to build himself a house. The appearance of
the house was pleasing and in contrast to the
ordinary run of work. Other architects then
saw a value in the clinker brick and began to
use them. The demand so increased that
the brickmakers themselves came to see the
value of what they had been accustomed to

regard as a waste product and the price was
advanced until now "clinkers" bring two
dollars per thousand more than standard first
quality.—Canadian Architect and Builder.

She Did Not Object.

That Bessie is an indefatigable exponent of
the strenuous life is a fact fully realized by
her exhausted family. They follow in the
wake of her small investigating person with
remonstrances and soothing ointments from
the rising to the setting of the sun. She has
an elder brother who has learned to look upon
her activity more in sorrow than in anger.

One Sunday noon he stood gravely before
the fire, his youthful mind big with recollec-
tions of the morning's lesson and his teacher's
insistence upon the sin of Sabbath-breaking,
when suddenly his eye fell upon the incorrig-
ible Bessie. There she sat on the floor in one
corner of the room, her chubby face all frivol-
ity and smiles, dolls to the left of her, dolls
to the right of her, and a kitten ecstatically
plunging after a piece of string the other end
of which her pink hands held. One glance
was enough for the elder brother, and he
strode at once towards the prodigal.

"Bessie," he demanded sternly, "do you
want to go to Hell?"

Without a moment's hesitation the string
was dropped, up scrambled the fat little legs,
and off trotted Bessie toward the door, calling
over her shoulder:

"Jus' wait till I get my hat, Ha'wy."

A Large Fish.

An Englishman, visiting Lake Tahoe,
asked a native if there was any good fishing
in the lake.

"Oh, yes, stranger."

"What kind of fish do you catch here?"

"Oh all kinds, stranger."

"What is the weight of the largest fish you
ever caught?"

"Wa'al, stranger, we don't take weighing
machines when we goes fishing, and I am an
honest man, and would'n't like to say how
much that last trout I caught would weigh.
But I tell you, stranger, that when I pulled
that fish out of the water the lake went down
a foot."—Birmingham "Post."

Pointers for the Cook.

Rub tough meat with a cut lemon.

Use bacon fat for frying chickens or game.

Try dipping sliced onions in milk before
frying.

Sharpen all kinds of fish sauce with lemon
juice.

Grape juice gives a delicious flavoring to
mince pies.

Bean soup is much improved by adding a
little mace just before serving.

Chocolate is greatly improved by adding a
teacup of strong coffee just before serving.

To improve sweetbreads and give a fine
flavor soak them in a mild lemon juice water
one hour, then boil in beef stock twenty
minutes.

Too Lazy to Take Money.

One hot summer's day a gentleman who
was waiting for his train at one of our coun-
try stations asked a porter who was lying on
one of the seats where the station master
lived, and the porter, not moving, lazily
pointed to the house with his foot. The
gentleman, very much struck at the man's
laziness, said: 'If you can show me a lazier
action than that, my good man, I'll give you
two-and-sixpence.' The porter, not moving
an inch, replied: 'Put it in my pocket, gov-
ernor.'—The People of London.

Friend—Your new heavy villain seems
adapted to the role.
Theatrical Manager—Yes. He can pro-
nounce the word "revenge" with fourteen
r's and look it with thirty.

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 - Ladies' and Children's Winter Un-
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 - Ladies' Fall & Winter Dress Skirts.
 - Ladies' Fall & Winter Underskirts.
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