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BRITISH AND PATRIOTIC.

(Charlottetown Guardian.) The St. John Board of Trade by a resolution passed with but one dissenting vote have declared that the preferential tariff ought to prefer British goods as well as British goods. In other words the members of that influential body place themselves on record as against permitting the benefits of the preference to British goods brought

to Canada through United States ports. The principle is a sound one, although the motives of the St. John board in adopting their resolution may not be purely disinterested. The Canadian parliament in adopting the British preference did not intend that the increased volume of trade which would be developed should be of benefit to foreign ports. It is as British, imperialistic and patriotic to give a preference to our own ports as it is to give a preference to British goods.

TERMS OF PEACE

Offered by Kitchener and Refused by Both.

Summary of the Correspondence as Submitted to the British Parliament.

LONDON, March 22.—The parliamentary papers, giving details of the negotiations between the Boer commander-in-chief, Gen. Botha, and Lord Kitchener, commanding the British forces in South Africa, issued this morning, begin with a telegram from Sir Alfred Milner to Colonial Secretary Chamberlain. The despatch is dated Pretoria, Feb. 22, and states that Mrs. Botha had returned from a meeting with her husband, bringing a letter in reply to Sir Alfred Milner's verbal message offering to meet General Botha as a means of ending the war on the express understanding that he would not discuss the question of the independence of the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony. Mrs. Botha assured Sir Alfred Milner that the letter had been written with that point clearly understood. General Botha referred the matter to his generals and it was stated that the meeting would probably take place at Middleburg.

Mr. Chamberlain replied that he was glad to hear of General Botha's desire to treat, and hoped it was genuine. "He will find us," said the colonial secretary, "anxious to meet him on all points affecting his individual position."

On Feb. 27 Sir Alfred Milner called Lord Kitchener, informing him that General Botha had written that he would be in Pretoria at 10 o'clock a. m. Feb. 28.

A despatch from Lord Kitchener to the war office, dated Pretoria, Feb. 28, reports a long interview with General Botha, who showed very good feeling and seemed anxious for peace. He asked for information, which he said he would submit to his government, the general and the people. If they agreed, he would visit the Orange River Colony and get those there to agree. Should all of them hand in their arms it would finish the war. He said they could go on for some time and he was not sure he would be able to bring about peace without independence. "I declined to discuss such a point," said Lord Kitchener, "and said a modified form of independence would be most dangerous and would lead to war in the future. Replying to General Botha's inquiries, I informed him that when hostilities ceased the military would be replaced by a crown colony administration consisting of a nominated executive and an elected assembly to advise him, and that, after a period, by a representative government. The Boers would be licensed to have rifles to protect themselves against the natives; the Dutch and the English languages were to have equal rights. I have the franchise until after representative government had been granted; the Orange Free State laws for Kaffirs would be considered good; church property, public trusts and orphan funds would not be touched; no war tax would be imposed on farmers; assistance would be given to repair the burned farms and to enable the farmers to start afresh, and colonists who had joined the republics should be disfranchised."

"General Botha generally seemed satisfied with these conditions."

Among the questions to which Lord Kitchener apparently did not reply were when the war prisoners would return, and regarding the taking over of the debts of the republics, including those legally contracted since the beginning of the war. General Botha was reported to be making a strong point of this. He referred to notes which had been issued amounting to less than a million pounds.

Lord Kitchener arranged to communicate Botha's views to his government. All that he said was qualified by being subject to confirmation from the home government.

Mr. Chamberlain, in a reply, dated March 6, directs Lord Kitchener to modify the terms on a number of points. Eventually Lord Kitchener reported to the war office, under date of Pretoria, March 20th, he had written Gen. Botha the terms the government was prepared to adopt. These were the same as already given, except in the following particulars: "The government cannot undertake any liabilities regarding the debts of the late republics, but is prepared, as an act of grace, to raise a million pounds to pay the inhabitants for goods required by the public and government. If the claims after adjustment exceed £1,000,000 they are liable to reduction pro rata. The Kaffir franchise when given shall be so limited as to secure a just predominance of the white race. The legal position of the colored inhabitants will be similar to that now held by them in Cape Colony."

The letter concludes: "I must inform your honor that if the terms now offered are not accepted after a reasonable delay for consideration they must be regarded as cancelled."

On March 18 Lord Kitchener received General Botha's acknowledgment of the receipt of the letter. "I had advised my government," wrote General Botha, "of your excellency's letter, but after the mutual exchange of views in our interview, at Middleburg, February 28, it will certainly not surprise your excellency to know that I do not feel disposed to recommend the terms of said letter, but they shall have the earnest consideration of my government. I may add that my government and my chief officers here entirely agree with my views."

On March 3 Sir Alfred Milner called Lord Kitchener, submitting the following replies to Gen. Botha: "I beg to inform you that on the cessation of

hostilities, and the complete surrender of arms, ammunition, cannon and munition in the hands of the burghers in the field at government depots or elsewhere, his majesty's government is prepared at once to grant amnesty in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony for all bona fide acts of war during the hostilities, as well as to move the governments of Cape Colony and Natal to similar action, qualified by the disfranchisement of any British subjects implicated in the war. The military prisoners in St. Helena, Ceylon and elsewhere, on complete surrender, shall be brought back to their country. Military law shall at once be replaced by a civil administration, but it is the desire of his majesty's government, as soon as circumstances will permit, to establish a representative government. On the cessation of hostilities a high court, independent of the executive, shall be established to administer the laws.

Land, church property, trusts and orphan funds shall be respected. The English and the Dutch languages shall be taught in the public schools and allowed in the law courts. The legal debts of the state to the amount of £10,000,000 shall be paid, even if contracted through hostilities. The government does not intend to extend the franchise to Kaffirs in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony before a representative government is granted."

The conditions regarding assistance to the farmers, fire arms, etc., are the same as those in Lord Kitchener's replies to General Botha. Sir Alfred Milner adds that he agrees to the above except, as to the desire for modification regarding British subjects in Cape Colony and Natal in the Boer army, who, if they returned to those colonies, would be liable to be dealt with under the laws of those colonies, passed to meet circumstances arising in war. He added: "While willing to concede much in order to strengthen General Botha in inducing the people to submit, amenable to the rebels is not in my opinion a point which his majesty's government can afford to concede. I think it would have a deplorable effect upon the Cape Colony and Natal to obtain peace by such a concession."

THE CUBAN SITUATION.

Prospect That the Platt Amendment Will be Accepted.

HAVANA, March 21.—An element of doubt now exists as to what will be the final attitude of the Cuban constitutional convention. The preponderance of public opinion in favor of the Platt amendment during the last few days is having its effect upon the radical members and General Sangulley's press utterances today further seem to weaken the attitude of the radicals. General Sangulley was the most radical of all the delegates. He favored dissolving the convention when the United States congress adopted the amendment. He now says:—"A literal interpretation of the Platt amendment might mean the loss of Cuban independence; but the liberal view which President McKinley and the convention would give, would leave nothing to be feared by the Cubans. Independence with some restrictions is preferable to a continuance of military rule, which would surely follow a rejection of the Platt amendment."

"If the Americans want Isle of Pines I am in favor of giving it to them. I am also in favor of establishing coal stations on some of the keys or at some of the small ports. The presence of the authority of the United States will be a guarantee of our independence."

The committee on relations did not report today. Probably it will submit its report to individual members of the convention tomorrow. General Miles, who has returned from the Isle of Pines, visited the convention with Senator De Quesada. He advised them not to act hastily with reference to the amendment, pointing out that the people of the United States had nothing to say but in praise of the constitution, and that the amendment was only carrying out the Teller resolution and furnishing further guarantees of Cuban independence. United States Senator Redfield Proctor arrived in Havana today.

CARNEGIE ON STEEL TRUST.

LONDON, March 21.—To an English interviewer, after his arrival in London, Mr. Carnegie talked freely concerning the steel trust which, he thought, would not affect Great Britain much one way or the other. "I think there is no fear," said Mr. Carnegie, that the trust's surplus stock will be sold abroad at less than cost, or that the trust hopes to slaughter the steel trade of Great Britain."

When asked whether the people of America were not likely to pass stringent anti-trust legislation Mr. Carnegie said no. He thought the tariff was a back number for many things, having done its work. "But," he added, "where it is still needed you may rely it will be freely used."

THE MARSEILLES STRIKE.

MARSEILLES, March 22.—The men employed on the street car line in this city struck this morning and only a few cars are running. An attempt was made by the strikers to prevent the starting of any cars, but after a few fights the strikers were dispersed by the police.

MARSEILLES, March 22.—A few street cars are running today under the protection of policemen, strikers are much excited. They attacked one car and cut the electric light wires. A fight ensued. The gendarmes were assailed by a volley of stones and bottles and were obliged to fire their revolvers in the air. They then charged and cleared the streets.

FREDERICTON.

A Company Proposes to Buy the Shore Line.

Judge Hanington's Bill Turned Down—Albert County Affairs—Asylum Accounts.

FREDERICTON, March 22.—The corporation committee met this morning and considered several bills. The committee decided to report adversely upon Judge Hanington's bill introduced by Hon. Mr. Pugsley, to amend the act vesting the property of the Madras school in the diocesan synod of Fredericton. A bill to incorporate the Coverdale River Log Driving Company met with strong opposition from both members from Albert, Messrs. Ryan and Osman, who were supported by a large signed petition against the bill by Albert County residents. The bill was supported by Louis A. Wright, of Coverdale, a member of the company seeking incorporation, and D. I. Welch of Moncton. After both sides had been heard a sub-committee, consisting of the attorney general, Mr. Hazen and Mr. Ryan, was appointed to draft a new bill to meet the views of both parties.

The bills to incorporate the Riverside Hall Co., the Hillsboro Branch Railway Co., and the New Brunswick Southern Railway Co. were considered and will be reported upon favorably. The New Brunswick Southern Railway Co. proposes to acquire the Shore Line railway, running between St. John and St. Stephen. The capital stock of the company is \$50,000 and the chief stockholders are J. J. Tucker, M. P., Henry F. Puddington and Matthew B. Edwards. The public accounts committee had just asyrum accounts under consideration. This committee will meet again this evening to look into asyrum construction accounts.

MYSTERIOUS SHOOTING CASE.

NEW YORK, March 22.—Two men were shot at an early hour this morning at the Rathskeller of the Fabrik hotel by a man who is believed insane. The injured men are John B. Lefillane, 40 years old, of the Broadway theatre, who was wounded in the left side; and Li's theatrical enterprises, Richard Hayden Morris, 25 years old, who says he is a student and a native of Tennessee, not in any business, and a guest of the Criterion hotel, were looked upon, charged with having done the shooting. Dingwell was taken to Roosevelt hospital, where it was found that a bullet had entered the shoulder. When Morris was arraigned in the police court he said he was Robert H. Moulton of Springfield, Tenn., and that he had been a student for three years at Columbia university. He was held in \$5,000 bail for examination on Monday next.

Adm Shooting. Moulton said he was a user of morphine and that he took a good deal of the drug yesterday. He said he remembered going to the Broadway Theatre and remembered the second act, but nothing more of the play. He also remembered coming out, but asserted he did not remember anything that happened from that time until he found himself pulling up to the police court in the patrol wagon. While the man was in the prison pen the police explained that Moulton was almost totally deaf and that he read speech by watching the movement of the speaker's lips. A detective in court who overheard this said he was looking for a man who read people's lips and was named Moulton. He showed a photograph of Moulton and said he was wanted for passing bogus checks. The detective said the prisoner was known in Chicago, Elmira, Boston and Buffalo. It was said at the hospital that Dingwell was resting easily.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

PEKIN, March 22.—The troops on both sides of the disputed land at Tien Tsin have been withdrawn and all danger of a fracas is ended. The opinion of the British is that the promptness of Gen. Balfour in calling up the marines from Taku prevented a collision. The British, prior to the arrival of the marines' sentries, were supplied from the Madras pioneers for several days, were surrounded by crowds of foreign soldiers, mostly French, who assailed them with all kinds of abuse, calling them "Coolies" and "Madrassees." They were becoming restive when the marines arrived at night and quietly relieved them; and it was only when daylight appeared that the Russians discovered the change.

BRIEFS BY WIRE.

GIBRALTAR, March 22.—The armored cruiser New York arrived here today. She will proceed to Tangier to demand settlement of the claims of the United States government against Morocco.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., March 22.—The Kerr Murray machine works, one of the largest manufacturing concerns in the city, is on fire and total destruction of works seems inevitable. Loss will be very heavy.

LONDON, March 22.—Queen Alexandra started for Copenhagen this morning. King Edward accompanied her to the Victoria station, where he bade her farewell.

GIBRALTAR, March 22.—The steamship Ophir, with the Duke and the Duchess of Cornwall and York on board, sailed for Malta this morning. The storm which had prevailed having subsided, all the warships in port were manned and salutes were fired as

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JAMES PATTERSON, 19 and 20 South Market Wharf.

The Ophir steamed out of the harbor. MIDDLEBURY, Vt., March 22.—The analysis of the stomach of Miss Ida Fosburgh, who died from poison received by mail at the Shoreham last week, Tuesday, is understood to show that strychnine was the cause of death. No arrests have been made.

THE WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Eastern states and northern New York—Fair tonight; increasing cloudiness, with rains in afternoon and warmer. Winds becoming fresh to brisk southeasterly. Western New York—Generally fair today, rains Saturday; fresh to brisk westerly and northwesterly winds, becoming easterly.

TORONTO, March 22.—Today and on Saturday, moderate to fresh westerly to southwesterly winds, generally fair, not much change in temperature.

GOOD WORKS.

Good works on dove-like pinions borne, Returning from the past, As ministering angels come, To bless us at the last.