

LAURIER AND FIELDING

Two notable events have occurred in the political world during the past week. Chief of these were the great Liberal demonstration at Montreal in honor of Hon. W. S. Fielding as chief editor of The Montreal Daily Telegraph, and his chief, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, with the latter's reiteration of the Liberal policy of free food and the duty of the government to reduce the cost of living.

Interesting in a different manner was the incursion of three of Mr. Borden's cabinet ministers in an effort to end the Tory family quarrel in South Lanark. This latter was made remarkable by the appeal of Hon. Mr. Foster that "the Borden government has not yet had time to settle down to the gait of government." This after two years of office! Before the Laurier government had been one year in office they had reformed the tariff and introduced the first British preference the empire had ever known.

In addition to this was the significant denunciation by Col. Sam Hughes that Lt.-Col. Balderson, in daring to run in South Lanark as an independent Conservative candidate, had forgotten both the discipline of the militia and of the Orange Order.

The South Lanark episode, after two years of Conservative administration, was pitiful in comparison with the united and enthusiastic Liberal demonstration that same night at Montreal after two years of opposition.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier laid down his platform of free food in the following clear terms:

"If the tariff was reduced, as I propose to do, we would take away the cost which weighs upon the poorer classes of the community. It does not affect so much those who sit at this board, but it does affect very closely the artisan, the mechanic, the clerk, the clergyman, the professor, the teacher. We are fighting for the wives, for the mothers, for the children; we are fighting even for those able-bodied men who, with reduced wages, have to face the coming of a cold Canadian winter."

Sir Wilfrid further referred to the splendid work of the tariff commission after the election of his first government in 1896 and declared:

"I will tell you what we would do if we were in office now, what Mr. Fielding would do if he were in office. He would go on as head of a commission, on which the minister of trade and commerce, the minister of customs, the minister of labor would sit, and they would go all over the country from Halifax to Victoria, investigating the situation, asking the producer to give testimony, asking the workingman to give testimony and asking the manufacturers of every large city to find what would be the best means of reducing the tariff, so as to bring down the cost of living and doing no injustice to anybody. We have done it before. We can do it again."

Hon. Mr. Fielding trenchantly criticized the present government for its vacillating inaction and ridiculed their course in waiting to see what the new American tariff would do before daring to undertake any tariff reform for themselves. That Mr. Fielding would not rest upon his laurels but go forward with his leader to fresh victories was shown by his ringing declaration:

"We are living in a new century; a century in which new conditions are arising. It is the age of democracy. It is the age in which the great mass of people in this country is going to make a change, and the worker is going to demand a larger share of the fruits of his labor."

It was throughout a splendid demonstration by a party now in opposition and from first to last it tingled with the living sense of a party so closely in touch with the people that no doubt could be felt that whenever the people should be called upon they would triumphantly returned to power.

It now seems likely that the next meeting of the provincial government will witness the biggest row of the whole year.

There is also trouble in the local Tory camp in Prince Edward Island, judging by the following which appears in a despatch to the Times: "In the provincial Tory camp, there is also dissension and dissatisfaction. The present premier has shown the ability to alienate some of his strongest supporters including, Mr. Kennedy and it will not be at all surprising, if a fourth judgeship looms up in the horizon, that he will seek that office and get away from a party at present in a bad state of disintegration."

Mr. Arthur Hawkes, who worked the "British-born" fake on the elections during the flag-flapping campaign of 1911, offered himself as a candidate for election in South Lanark last week and out of four thousand votes polled he secured exactly seventy. Even the British-born of the riding gave him the cold shoulder.

It seems to have been settled by the Tory bosses that Hon. H. F. McLeod is to be the Tory candidate for York at the approaching by-election. Hon. Mr. McLeod boasts that he is a fighter, therefore he should not complain if the Liberals decide to give him a chance to do some fighting during the coming contest. The people of York are getting tired of machine politics.

Word is being passed around to the friends of Mr. J. K. Pinder to take concerted action in demanding his appointment as Commissioner of Public Works before any convention is held in York. What is to be done with Honest John?

It is said that Premier Flemming intends retiring from provincial politics at an early day. It would be decidedly in the interest of the province if the whole bunch would step down and out.

The Montreal Herald reports that the Conservatives have abandoned the protest against Mr. Cardin, Liberal member for Richelieu, P. Q., who was returned at a by-election a year ago.

Grafters great and grafters small seem to be getting in their work on all sides these days. It is not to be wondered at that some of them are fighting over the spoils.

BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS

Rear Admiral Austin M. Knight, U.S.N., 59 years old today.

Dr. Isaac Sharpless, president of Harvard College, 65 years old today.

William H. Kendal, famous English actor and manager, now retired, 70 years old today.

Earl of Craven, who married Miss Cornelia Martin of New York, 45 years old today.

Arsene P. Pujol, former representative in Congress from Louisiana 52 years old today.

Rufus Hardy, representative in Congress of the Sixth District of Texas, 58 years old today.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1653—Oliver Cromwell became Lord Protector of England.

1714—George Whitfield famous evangelist, born in Gloucester, England. Died in Newburyport, Mass., Sept. 30, 1770.

1742—Marshal Blucher, who commanded the German allies at Waterloo, born. Died Sept. 12, 1819.

1773—Destruction of cargo of taxed tea in Boston harbor by citizens disguised as Indians, known as the "Boston Tea Party."

1823—John A. Shulze, became governor of Pennsylvania.

1862—Gen. Burnside's army moved to the north side of the Rappahannock.

1894—James Black, first presidential candidate of the Prohibition party died in Lancaster, Pa. Born in Lewisburg, Pa., Sept. 16, 1823.

1897—Alphonse Daudet, celebrated French novelist, died. Born May 13, 1840.

EMPRESSES COMING

Telegraph:—It was reported in the city yesterday that the C.P.R. steamer Empress of Britain would come to St. John on her next trip and call at Halifax for the landing of mails and any passengers who wish to leave, as was the custom last year. It was impossible yesterday to get any confirmation of this rumor, although, it was generally believed around the city that there was some basis for the report.

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STOCK MARKET

(Continued from page one)

(Quotations by J. C. Mackintosh & Co., Bankers & Brokers, St. John, N.B.)

	Open	Close
Copper	69½	69½
Smelters	61½	61½
C.P.R.	217½	216½
Brooklyn	86½	86½
Great Northern	123½	123
Northern Pacific	106½	105½
Pennsylvania	106½	106½
Reading	161½	161½
Lehigh	148½	148
Union Pacific	150½	150½
U.S. Steel	55½	55½
Tobacco	243	241
Sales to 1 o'clock, 164,800 shares.		

MONTREAL MORNING SALES.

(Quotations by J. M. Robinson & Sons, Bankers and Brokers, St. John, N.B.)

Bank of Commerce—52 @ 201.	
Bank of Montreal—15 @ 230.	
Brazilian—220 @ 84.	
Car Com.—25 @ 62½.	
Power—27 @ 217½.	
C.P.R.—440 @ 218, 200 @ 217½, 125 @ 218, 100 @ 218½, 25 @ 218½.	
C.P.R. Rights—1225 @ 4 3-15½	
Dominion Steel—155 @ 38½, 35 @ 38½	
75 @ 38½, 25 @ 39, 5 @ 39½.	
Detroit—25 @ 70½.	
Power—225 @ 213, 25 @ 213½, 25 @ 213½, 7 @ 214, 55 @ 214½, 100 @ 215.	
R. & O.—4 @ 111, 25 @ 110½.	
Crown Reserve—45 @ 172.	
Macdonald—75 @ 15½.	
Soo Rails—25 @ 125.	
Paint Com.—5 @ 53.	
Pennmans—20 @ 80.	
Oron Pfd.—10 @ 94.	
Illinois—1 @ 90½.	
Cotton Pfd.—25 @ 74½.	

BOARD OF TRADE.

The Board of Trade has prepared several thousand picture postcards for the purpose of advertising the city and vicinity. The public may obtain the cards at the Board of Trade Office, 608 Queen street. The membership campaign inaugurated by the board has borne fruit already, several new members joining. A personal appeal for new members will be made soon after Christmas.

WORK WELL ADVANCED

The brick work of the new fire station is rapidly nearing completion and will soon be sufficiently advanced for the roof to be put on. The front of the building which will be of cut-stone and tapestry brick will be built behind a box-front which will be put on soon. It is thought the cold weather will not affect the operations.

FIGHTS FOR TODAY.

Joe Azevedo vs. Owen Morgan, 10 rounds, at Oakland, Cal.
"Spike" Kelly vs. Billy Walter?, 15 rounds at St. Joe, Mo.

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size, 25c. at all dealers.

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Commencing Friday evening, December 19th. we will be open each evening until Christmas

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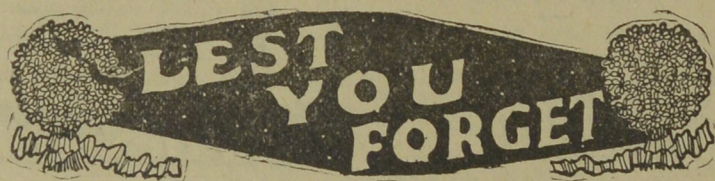
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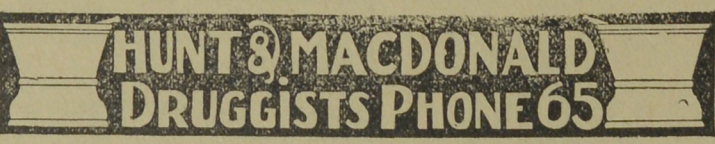
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