

## The Daily Mail

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### CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP

Within the past few days there have been strong indications of disunion within the Conservative party. It has been evident for some time that a considerable number of the rank and file of that party at Ottawa are unfriendly to the leadership of Mr. Borden and hostile also to Mr. Foster who is generally regarded as first lieutenant to the leader of the Opposition. It has been openly charged that Mr. Monk was in the forefront of the fight against Mr. Borden's leadership. This is denied by Mr. Monk in somewhat vigorous language and from other sources it is learned that the opposition to Mr. Borden, while coming from Quebec, emanates from a source which is not friendly to Mr. Monk himself.

As leader of the Opposition, Mr. Borden has not displayed any very marked degree of ability or even common sense. He has permitted himself to be used by men within the party, who were moved more by political spleen than by a desire to improve the condition of the country or to strengthen their party with the people. Witness the efforts of Dr. Daniel and Mr. O. S. Crockett against Hon. Wm. Pugsley. No political leader who hopes to succeed would tolerate the methods employed by these men to vent their personal spleen on a political adversary. No man has done more to advance New Brunswick interests than the Minister of Public Works and no one has ever been so bitterly assailed by his political opponents as he. While striving to up-build the country, he has been represented as the apostle of all that was evil by these insignificant members of the House—men who have never done anything for the province themselves and who are incapable of even suggesting anything of value even if they had the opportunity. The leader who would tolerate such malicious attacks on an opponent without raising his voice in protest, must necessarily be a weak man or of the same calibre as the traducers themselves.

In all probability, however, the tempest will soon blow over and Mr. Borden will remain at the head of the Conservative party until this much talked of convention is over, if it is ever held. One reason why he will not be immediately deposed, is the difficulty, if not impossibility, of choosing a successor. There are several aspirants for leadership among the members of the House of Commons. All of these gentlemen fully believe that they are more capable than the present leader, but the great difficulty is that the number of their supporters is not large. The Conservative party has not yet got over the difficulties inspired by the nest of traitors who brought about its downfall in 1896. Until the last of these disappears it will be difficult to bring about harmony in this once great party. At the present time it is not much more united than it was fifteen years ago and it will take more than a convention at Ottawa or elsewhere to restore public confidence either in its leaders or members. At the present time the Conservative party is in a worse condition before the country than it has been at any time since its overwhelming defeat in 1896.

Weak as he unquestionably is, Mr. Borden evidently intends to suppress Hon. G. E. Foster, much to that gentleman's chagrin and disgust. Mr. Foster is one of those gentlemen in parliament who poses as a statesman and regards everyone else as lacking in ability, honesty, integrity, morality and every other attribute that goes to make a decent man and a good citizen. Canada has never had a more self-seeking politician than the same George E. Thoroughly despised and kicked out of every constituency he held in this province, he has found a temporary asylum in Toronto. Lacking the chief attributes he demands in others, he has developed into a common scold and a nuisance that should be abated. It has taken his own party some time to get down to the said George E., but now they have done so, he is not likely to awaken much sympathy in the party he did so much to wreck. Indeed, his passing is likely to be the cause of genuine rejoicing.

### EQUIPPING THE WINTER PORT

Word comes from Ottawa in a special despatch to The Times last night and confirmed in The Telegraph this morning, that arrangements are about completed that will secure the erection of a dry dock and ship repairing plant at the port of St. John. This will be good news, not only to the people directly interested, but to those of the whole province, for St. John cannot prosper without the rest of the province being directly benefited. Since the Liberal party came into power in 1896 there has been a decided effort to direct Canadian trade through Canadian ports. Prior to that time, the lines of steamers subsidized for carrying the Canadian mails made their final port of call in a foreign country. This policy prevented the growth of Canadian ports like St. John and Halifax, and worked directly to the advantage of Portland, Maine. Sir Wilfrid Laurier changed all this by compelling the subsidized steamship lines to make their final port of call a Canadian port. The situation of St. John as nearer the west than other Canadian ports, has operated greatly to her advantage and as a result the exports have grown from a few million dollars in 1896 to possibly twenty-five million dollars in 1910. Every year the trade of St. John is growing.

The one thing necessary to complete the equipment of St. John as a first-class port is a dry dock and this now seems to be in sight. Such a plant as is proposed will cost many millions of dollars and give employment to a large number of mechanics of all kinds. It will eventually lead to ship building on a large scale, an industry for which St. John is well adapted and well situated. There is ample room on the foreshores of Courtney Bay for the establishment, not only of a dry dock but also of a great ship building plant, in addition to providing terminals for the Grand Trunk Pacific when it is completed. Again it is Hon. William Pugsley who has been the moving spirit in the negotiations that are likely to make St. John the premier port of Canada.

### THE TARIFF AGREEMENT

The Canadian people are more than satisfied with the tariff agreement that has been reached between Canada and her great neighbor to the South. There will be, of course, a few high protectionists who saw a personal fortune in a tariff war, who will shout "betrayed," and the irresponsible wing of the Conservative press, that is always on the look-out for political capital, will wail about the surrender of Canada's rights, but the mass of the Canadian people recognize the brilliant success of Hon. Mr. Fielding and his colleagues in bringing about tariff peace. The action of the Liberal Government is one of a long train that shows the present administration does not stand for the monopolies but for the rights of the great body of the people. It is upon the consumer that the brunt of a tariff war invariably falls. In considering tariff agreement, there are two important points, namely: Have we foregone any of our rights as a treaty-making nation; and, Are the concessions given to the United States too large?

Regarding the first point, Hon. Mr. Fielding, in his statements and letters, has made it plain that our rights in this respect have been well guarded, and that the position of Canada in regard to her rights to make exclusive bargains with foreign nations, remains unimpaired. The stand taken by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. Mr. Fielding on this matter of principle, was firm, and President Taft recognized it as a just and patriotic position. Regarding the concessions given, President Taft was very desirous to come to a peaceful agreement, and wished Canada to make a few concessions in order that the letter of the law in the Payne-Aldrich tariff might be complied with. The President wished merely enough "to save his face," as the Boston Transcript, a paper supporting the Taft administration, has very aptly expressed it. The concessions given to the United States consist of thirteen items in the general tariff. The whole world, as well as the United States, shares the benefit of these reductions, which consist in a decrease in duty of approximately two and a half per cent. upon sundry articles, the present imports of

which aggregate about \$5,000,000. Considering that the articles affected were only about three per cent. of our total imports from the United States in 1909, and that about thirty-five per cent of our total imports come from the United States, the trifling nature of these concessions becomes apparent. Regarding the small reduction in revenue, Hon. Mr. Fielding says: "I do not think that the loss will be very heavy, but even so, I think that in the present flourishing condition of our revenue, we shall be able to stand it." The Canadian government approached this important question in the spirit of firmness and conciliation, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier struck a high note of international relations when he said "peace and goodwill with our neighbors are worth all the nuts and perfumery in creation." In gaining present peace and paving the way for better trade relations with the United States, the Laurier administration deserves the gratitude and support of the whole Canadian people.

The Canada Lumberman, commenting on the tariff agreement between Canada and the United States, says: "The reported solution of the tariff difficulty between the United States and Canada is welcome news to the lumber industry of Canada. No single industry in either country would have been so adversely affected by a tariff war as that of lumber, and the cloud which has been hanging over the trade for almost two years has now been dispersed. Lumbermen, however, in common with all others in Canada, will not be fully relieved until the solution has been worked out publicly and it is known that peace has been secured without any sacrifice of honor. The concessions to the United States will be regarded with suspicion until their effect is known. Canadian interests have been sacrificed to the United States so often in the past that further sacrifices will not be tolerated by a patient and long suffering public."

### PERUVIANS ARE PREPARING FOR WAR

Lima, April 5.—An imposing demonstration by 5,000 persons, excited by the events at Guayaquil took place last night. After removing the arms of the Ecuadorean consulate the crowd proceeded to the principal square in front of the palace and called for the president to speak. President Leguia came out on the balcony and addressed the assemblage. He recommended that the people retire in an orderly manner and hoped that the spontaneous demonstration of patriotism would be converted into a reality in case of necessity. The cabinet council has decided to demand immediate and full satisfaction from Ecuador for the insults against the Peruvian legation at Quito and the consulate at Guayaquil and the attacks upon Peruvians and their property.

In case of a negative reply from the Ecuadorean government, it is proposed to send troops against that country and a squadron to block the river Suayas, on which Guayaquil is situated. The government has called up the reserves, and within a month can muster 40,000 men.

### SUICIDE AT ARTHURETTE

Andover, April 4.—Gustave Giberson, a well to do farmer at Arthurette, on the Tobique about twenty miles from here, committed suicide this morning by taking carbolic acid. It is supposed in a fit of despondency. Giberson lived with a married brother. This morning he rose at the usual hour and, going to the barn, harnessed his horses. Returning to the house a little later, however, he drank a large part of the contents of a two ounce bottle of carbolic acid.

Giberson was about 35 years of age. Besides his brother he is survived by a wife and daughter living in Michigan. Deceased had lived for a time in that state, where he married, but had been separated from his wife for some years. He had been away from Arthurette last week and when he returned on Saturday he told some of the neighbors that he intended to commit suicide.

### MUST WAIT 600 YEARS

Berlin, April 4.—The creditors of the Duke de Talleyrand, who married Mme. Anna Gould, are looking blue. They realize that they must await with extreme patience the settlement of their claims against the Duke. The Judge of the court at Sagan who examined the claims announces that they amount to \$4,000,000. He states, too, that the total sum realized by working the Duke's estates in Germany has averaged a little over \$6,000 a year. So at this rate it will be about six hundred years before the creditors' claims are satisfied.

April 4 1910

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