

The Daily Mail

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Fredericton, N. B., March 31, 1910.

THE TARIFF QUESTION

Mr. Fielding has averted a tariff war with the United States and laid the foundation for further negotiations for the improvement of trade relations with that country. That is what the people of this country want. There is no desire on the part of Canada to cut off trade with the Republic. Whatever has been done in that direction has had its origin in the states. On many occasions this country has sought to make trade between the countries easier but the "interests" across the line have always interfered until the acute stage was reached a few days ago, when a war of tariffs seemed inevitable. The good sense of a few men of both countries has prevented so undesirable and disastrous a consequence. It is a serious matter to disturb the fiscal conditions of a country—more serious than most people think and had a tariff war become necessary, there would have been an overturn in the affairs of many commercial concerns. Mr. Fielding has been able to escape from a most difficult situation without making concessions that will in any way affect any of the industrial concerns of the country. Neither will the changes made in the tariff seriously affect the revenue. What Mr. Fielding has done is to make a reduction in the general tariff which is entirely in the interests of the consumer.

The Toronto Globe referring to the matter says:

"The publication of the list of articles upon which Canada will make concessions to the United States will not cause consternation here, nor enthusiasm across the border.

"A Washington despatch says that they will affect less than three per cent., of the business passing from the United States into Canada.

"Examination of the list shows that its influence on Canadian industry and Canadian interests will be beneficial rather than otherwise. It will, of course, make competition keener between the United States producer of various articles and the French or other foreign producer but that will be a benefit to us, not a loss. The only possible objection that could be reasonably urged against the concessions would be on the score of principle. It might be held that the concessions were an acknowledgment that Canada is precluded from making exclusive bargains with foreign powers.

"It will be seen by Mr. Fielding's statements and letters that our rights in this respect are firmly maintained, and that the present course of the Canadian government affords no ground for supposing that we forego any portion of our liberty of action in that respect.

"As will be seen by Washington despatches, there is a disposition there to regard Canada's concession as inadequate and illusory. There is a measure of truth in this, but the real value is not intrinsic value, but consequential value.

"As a consequence of these trifling concessions, a tariff war has been averted between the two countries. Nor is this all. A perusal of the letter of Secretary Knox, with Mr. Fielding's replies, indicates that in no period during the past forty years has the outlook for a free exchange between the two countries been so promising.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

In 1907, Mr. Flemming, then the financial critic of the opposition, made a vicious and unwarranted attack on the Agricultural department of the province then administered by Chief Commissioner Farris. He charged that the Commissioner was ashamed to place on record the production of cheese and butter in Carleton county, asserting that the reason for this was that the agricultural industry was going to decay because of the lack of interest on the part of the government. Mr. Flemming was then in opposition. Since his government has been in power there has been a steady decline in the manufacture of cheese and butter not only in Carleton, but over the whole province. In 1907 the value of these two products was \$373,585. In 1909 after Mr. Flemming and his colleagues had been in power two years, the

value of the products had fallen to \$280,255 a reduction of nearly one third.

Mr. Flemming is not opposed to the dairying industry, at least he says he is not, but he was opposed to the government of the day and therefore he attacked anything and everything they did. When butter and cheese factories were first established in this Province, and government aid to a very small amount granted them, a new industry was created which in a few years put thousands of dollars in cash into the farmers' pockets. It was the first real start the farmers of New Brunswick got and was extremely popular in all parts of the country. As the years went by methods changed. Small separators came into general use among farmers who manufactured their own butter rather than transport milk and cream to factories often miles away. The result was that while the production of butter and cheese in the country was constantly increasing less of it was made in the factories than formerly. Mr. Flemming took no account of this but viciously attacked the administration of the agricultural department because there was a slight falling off in the production of the butter and cheese in 1907 compared with 1906. What has Mr. Flemming to say now of present conditions, which show a decline in the value of butter and cheese produced in New Brunswick of upwards of a hundred thousand dollars since his government came into power? Is it due now as he said it was then to the dry rot of the agricultural department. If so the conditions of rot is much worse now than three years ago.

A year ago we were led to believe that the government was on the eve of making important agricultural discoveries. Grass under the administration was to grow on bare rocks. The farmers were to grow rich in a night. They would till the soil in such a way that where one blade of grass was now produced there would not be two, but a dozen. After two years of waiting for this development that was to come to the agricultural population it is discovered that nothing has been accomplished by this government of any permanent value. We have a new Secretary for Agriculture who sits in his office and looks wise; and an orchardist who is to tell the people how to successfully grow apples. A few more agricultural societies have been added to the list but the great awakening which was to come is yet to be. The farmers are going on tilling the soil in the old way and getting about the same results. The Department is somnolent and refuses to be awakened. The Kent county doctor who administers the Department talks well but is absolutely ignorant of farming or the requirements of the farmers. Mr. Woods was good enough to say of him that his chief value lay in his ability to select men adapted for the work they had to perform. This is about the best recommendation that any man can get but unfortunately in Dr. Landry's case it has yet to be proven. This is a department of the government that should be divorced from politics where everyone should work together. As it is at present the government has made it a political hive, inhabited by partisans of the most pronounced type. So far the boasted improvement in agriculture has failed to materialize.

AVIATION MEET MAY BE HELD IN FRANCE

New York, March 31.—France may be selected as the place for holding the international aviation contest for 1910, the date of which has been set for October 22 by the board of governors of the aero club of America. The governors were able to name the date at their meeting Tuesday, and it was developed that the success of the international contests depend in a large measure upon the attitude of the Wright brothers toward the foreign aviators, who may desire to come here. A committee of the club is now conferring with the Wrights to secure from them a statement of their policy in the international tournament. Foreign aviators are asking for a promise of no legal interference with their fights.

A HANDSOME CAR.

A McLaughlin-Buick motor car, ordered by Mr. Charles Edgewood through the local agents, McFarlane, Thompson & Anderson, Ltd., arrived today and is on exhibition at the King Street garage. It has accommodation for five people and is one of the handsomest cars ever brought into the city.

When flatterers meet, Satan goes to bed and takes a nap.

ANTI-TREATING LAW FOR ALL QUEBEC

Quebec, March 30.—Once more this session it is announced that the total abolition of the "treating system" in saloons and hotels of the province will be proposed in the legislature by Allen W. Giard, of Compton.

Last year Mr. Giard's proposition to the same effect was only voted down by a narrow majority in the house, and this session, with several changes in the membership, he is confident that his motion will be adopted; and that in a little while "the treating system" will be a thing of the past, to be replaced by the German system, according to which as many as a dozen workmen, for instance, might enter a bar in company and each put down a five cent piece in front of them for beer.

Mr. Giard says he has received letters of congratulation from temperance societies in England for his stand last session and that he is being urged to persevere until he attains his end.

MILLIONS WILL WED MILLIONS IN APRIL

The marriage of Miss Majorie Gould and Anthony J. Drexel, Jr., on April 19 will unite two of the great fortunes of America. Miss Gould, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George J. Gould, will inherit \$30,000,000 and Mr. Drexel, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony J. Drexel of Philadelphia, will come into as large a sum.

The announcement of the engagement of these two young persons came on Jan. 18 and has remained the most important news of this season to society. Miss Gould might have made her choice from half a dozen of the proudest titles of Europe before she accepted Mr. Drexel, who has been rather inconspicuous in his interests and recreations.

Miss Gould's suitors have included Capt. Arthur E. S. Paget, son of Gen. Sir Arthur Paget and Lady Paget, of England; Prince Alexander of Lenchtenberg, a kinsman of the Czar of Russia; the Duke of Alba, one of the richest nobles of Europe, and Prince Francis Joseph of Austria a brother of the Prince Miguel who married Miss Anita Stewart last fall.

CHAMPION OF INDOOR GOLF

Chicago, Ill., March 31.—H. Caandler Egan added the rather unique title of western indoor golf champion to his achievements yesterday when he defeated Harry S. Hockwell of the Calumet country club by 6 up and 5 to play in the final over the Minnashda course at the Wabash Ave. school. The tournament has been in progress for over a month.

CANADIAN CLUB EXECUTIVE.

The executive of the Canadian Club is to meet tonight to make arrangements for the next address to be given before the club.

PERSONAL.

Mr. C. T. Munro, of Chatham, is in the city.

Mr. G. S. Macdonald, of St. John, was in the city to attend the governor's ball.

Dr. Sormany, M. P. P., was in the city last evening on his way home from a trip to Boston.

Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. Tweedie were passengers to St. John by this morning's train and will return this evening.

Messrs. Luke Morrison and A. C. McKee returned yesterday from a trip to Boston.

Messrs. Ralph Neil and A. M. Tweedie returned yesterday from a trip to New York.

Messrs. J. R. Miller and Douglas D. McArthur, of St. John, are at the Barker House.

Messrs. W. E. McIntyre, W. A. Colles, J. T. Powers, A. C. Thompson and J. W. Mersereau, of St. John, arrived in the city this morning. They are at the Barker House.

Mrs. Lottie Lawrie and children, are spending a week at Kirkland, Carleton county, visiting her mother and father.

Misses Margaret and Lillian Fawcett, daughters of A. F. Fawcett, Woodstock, registered today at the Business College for the commercial course.

Miss Alicia Wandless, recently in the employ of Murray & Co., as book-keeper, has entered for a short-hand course at the Business College.

Miss Martha Greer, who has taken a full course at the Business College, has accepted a position with Murray & Co. as book-keeper and stenographer.

Mr. T. B. Blair, manager of the Royal Bank, St. John, was among the guests at the governor's ball last evening.

Mr. C. H. McGinn has been called here from Boston by the illness of his father, Mr. Patrick McGinn, an aged and highly esteemed citizen.

Edward C. Atkinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. Atkinson, is confined to his home by an attack of appendicitis, and will be unable to take part in the Y. M. C. A. circus.

March 28th 1910

John J. Weddall & Son

HOUSEKEEPERS ATTENTION

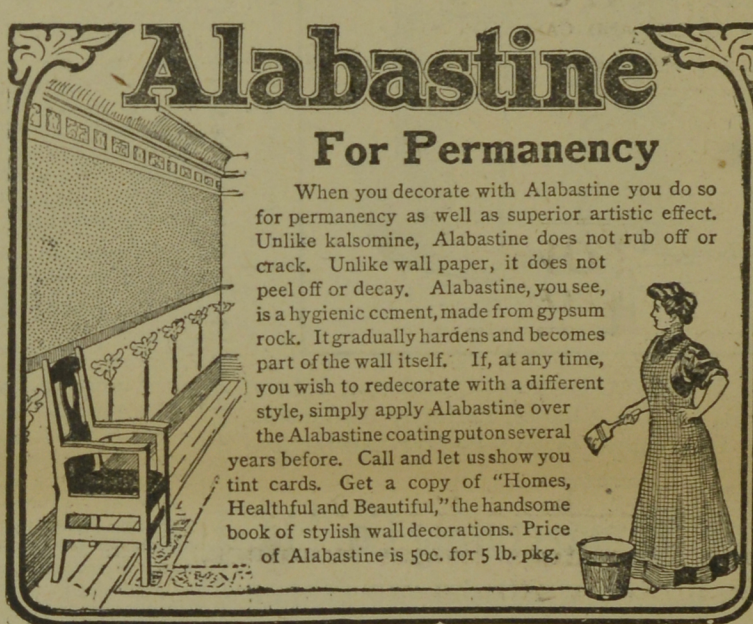
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