

MASS MEETING HELD AT OPERA HOUSE LAST NIGHT

(Continued from page five.)

TO CANADA'S ADVANTAGE.

Reciprocity he believed in all sincerity, was for the greater part to the advantage of Canada. At Ottawa they did not say so, as they knew that foolish people at Washington would repeat whatever was said just as what had been said at Washington had been repeated and distorted by members of the opposition. (Applause.) Everyone had thought the Reciprocity agreement was a good thing. From all parts of the House cheers had arisen when the sections of the agreement had been read. (Cheers.)

THE AGREEMENT ITSELF.

Describing the conditions under which the present agreement was suggested, Dr. Pugsley said:

"The representatives of the United States came to Ottawa offering free trade in manufactured as well as in natural products. We said that we were not prepared to entertain this proposal as we were afraid that our manufacturers are not in a position to compete with the greater organizations with the immense capital of the industries of the United States. But we said as far as natural products are concerned we have a country that is prepared to hold its own against the world. (Cheers.)

EFFECT ON LUMBER

"In the past we have not been afraid to admit free of duty those things which we have required and which the United States could furnish. We have admitted, duty free, \$7,000,000 worth of anthracite coal to aid our industries and add to the comfort of our people. We have admitted upwards of \$4,000,000 worth of fruit to cheapen the cost of food. We have admitted southern pine because our people needed cheap pine, Michigan hemlock and rough lumber to build homes for the farmers on the western prairies.

"Now, we said to the United States, you should take the duty off our lumber and, with a stroke of the pen, this was done. Last year we shipped lumber worth \$23,000,000 to the United States on which we paid duty and under the Reciprocity agreement they have voluntarily sacrificed revenue on this lumber to the extent of \$1,200,000, which, in the past, has been paid by the lumbermen of Canada.

LATH SITUATION.

"In laths, one of the most important by-products of lumber, they have reduced their duty by 50 per cent. and on shingles they have made an equal reduction. What concessions have we made in return? We have removed the duty from lumber of which we imported last year \$249 worth and on which was paid the sum of \$50 in duty."

"The Scott Lumber Company of Fredericton had asked for a reduction in the duty on shingles. Surely if the men in that company were sincere they would sink political feeling if Conservatives, and vote for Reciprocity. (Applause.)

"In the past the fishermen of Canada have paid tribute to the United States to the extent of \$500,000. They have agreed to take this tax off the hardy fishermen of our coasts and I believe that the largest part of this sum will find its way to the pockets of the fishermen. (Cheers.)

FARM PRODUCTS.

"Put yourself in my place and, unless you say that we ought not to discuss the matter at all with the United States, what would you ask for that would be of the greatest benefit to our citizens? Would you not have thought, first of all, of asking for a reduction of the duty on lumber? We have succeeded in securing it. Next you would have thought of the heavy duty on fish. We have had it removed. You would have thought of the tax on our farm products which we ship to the United States. We have made them free.

"You could not help thinking of the farmers of the western prairies who raised last year 37,000,000 bushels of wheat more than Great Britain imports from all the countries of the world. In ten years they have increased their wheat crop from an almost negligible quantity to the immense figures of 200,000,000 bushels, and in ten years there is no reason to believe it may not reach the sum of a thousand millions of bushels. Your hearts would go out to the farmers who are creating this wealth for Canada and you would have asked what could be done to give them the larger market they will need. We have opened to them the great markets of the United States."

MR. LEMONT SILENCED.

The speaker mentioned the great delegation of farmers who had gone to Ottawa to ask for a reduction in

the tariff.

Mr. Lemont asked if a second delegation of farmers had not gone to Ottawa.

Mr. Pugsley—"No."

Mr. Lemont—"Are you sure?"

Mr. Pugsley—"Positive. It is only fair to say, however, that a delegation of fruit growers from the Niagara peninsula did go to Ottawa and protested against free fruit on the ground that it would injure them. Since that time some of that very delegation, convinced that Reciprocity would go through, had organized a company to develop a fruit market in the United States and in the prospectus have pointed out what magnificent prospects the company has under Reciprocity." Cheers and laughter.)

FREE LIST AGREEMENT.

"They say that we are going to enter a fatal entanglement with the United States because we are going to put certain articles on the free list. Do you know how many articles will be affected by this agreement? If you have not studied the matter you may be surprised to find how few they are. Based on the statistics for last year the total value of the goods imported from the United States which will be placed on the free list is only \$8,000,000 and last year under the existing tariff arrangements goods to the value of \$131,000,000 were admitted to Canada without the payment of a single dollar of duty. The addition of goods worth only \$8,000,000 to this list is not going to hurt Canada."

Never, said the speaker, was Canada more truly loyal to the Empire. The anxiety of the Canadian youth to fight for the empire in South Africa had shown that. (Applause.) And yet in the last fifteen years the amount of free goods imported from the United States had increased six fold.

MOST FAVORED NATIONS.

Mr. Pugsley then took up the "most favored nation" agreement and its relation to Reciprocity. The same agreement had been used when the British Preferential Tariff was proposed. Germany had actually taken up the gauntlet and fought a tariff war with Canada. Germany had been defeated and in the end had asked for a renewal of the old agree-

ment. As a matter of fact, imports from "most favored nations" amounted only to \$745,000.

BORDEN-BOURASSA ALLIANCE.

The navy and the "unholy Quebec alliance" was the final subject taken up by the minister. The alliance between Henri Bourassa and the Conservative leader was the greatest menace confronting Canada. (Cheers.) The Tory leaders were working hand in hand with the leader of the Nationalist party in Quebec.

Mr. Lemont—"And he'll do it, too."

Mr. Pugsley—"I sincerely sympathize with my old friend. I was afraid he was going to choke." (Laughter.)

Mr. Pugsley pointed out that in Quebec Conservative and Nationalist candidates did not oppose one another. Laurier was being fought in that province because he had founded a navy which could become a part of the Imperial naval force. The great bulk of the French-Canadians, however, were loyal. (Cheers.) That must be recognized. In time of stress Canadian ships and Canadian sailors must aid the Empire. (Applause.) On that ground the Nationalists under Bourassa, fought the Laurier government tooth and nail.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier was one of Greater Britain's greatest statesmen.

He was following the lofty example of the former leader of the Conservative party, Sir John A. Macdonald, whose life was given to the same principle. These two great men stood together on the pages of history against men like Bourassa. Like his predecessor, Sir Wilfrid knew no race or section. He was all for Canada, a man who was inspired with the building up of a great united Canada, one of the brightest jewels in the British crown. (Great applause.)

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TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT

"The Government of the two countries having made this agreement from the conviction that, if confirmed by the necessary legislative authorities, it will benefit the people on both sides of the border line, we may reasonably hope and expect that the arrangement if so confirmed, will remain in operation for a considerable period. Only this expectation on the part of both Governments would justify the time and labor that have been employed in the maturing of the proposed measure. Nevertheless, IT IS DISTINCTLY UNDERSTOOD THAT WE DO NOT ATTEMPT TO BIND FOR THE FUTURE THE ACTION OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS OR THE PARLIAMENT OF CANADA, BUT THAT EACH OF THOSE AUTHORITIES SHALL BE ABSOLUTELY FREE TO MAKE ANY CHANGE OF TARIFF OR OF ANY OTHER MATTER COVERED BY THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENT THAT MAY BE DEEMED EXPEDIENT. We look for the continuance of the arrangement, not because either party is bound to it, but because of our conviction that the more liberal trade policy thus to be established will be viewed by the people of the United States and Canada as one which will strengthen the friendly relations now happily prevailing and promote the commercial interests of both countries."

A STRIKING COMPARISON

No stronger argument need be presented in favor of Reciprocity, from a York County standpoint, than is to be found in the startling contrasts afforded by the census figures under the old Reciprocity Treaty of 1854, and since its abrogation in 1866. Look at the figures as contained in the official returns:

WHEN WE HAD RECIPROCITY

Population of York County in 1851.....13,370

Population of York County in 1871.....27,140

Increase in 20 years, 13,770

WHEN THERE WAS NO RECIPROCITY

Population of York County in 1881.....30,397

Population of York County in 1901.....31,620

Increase in 20 years, 1,223

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SYNOPSIS OF CANADIAN NORTH- WEST LAND REGULATIONS.

ANY PERSON who is the sole head of a family, or any male over eighteen years old, may homestead a quarter section of available Dominion land in Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta. The applicant must appear in person at the Dominion Land Agency for the district. Entry by proxy may be made at any agency on certain conditions, by father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of intending homesteader.

Duties—Six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each of three years. A homesteader may live within nine miles of his homestead on a farm of at least eighty acres, solely owned and occupied by him or by his father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister.

In certain districts a homesteader in good standing may pre-empt a quarter section alongside his homestead. Price \$3.00 per acre. Duties—Must reside upon the homestead or (including the time required to earn homestead patent) and cultivate fifty acres extra.

A homesteader who has exhausted his homestead right and cannot obtain a pre-emption, may enter for a purchased homestead in certain districts. Price \$3.00 per acre. Duties—Must reside six months in each of three years, cultivate 40 acres and erect a house worth \$300.00.

W. W. CORY,
Deputy of the Minister
of the Interior.

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NOTICE

Letters of Administration of the Estate of John Gibson having been issued to Messrs. Arthur M. Gibson and Fred H. Gibson, all persons having claims against the said estate are requested to file the same duly attested at the office of the undersigned, within one month, and all persons indebted to the said estate are requested to make immediate payment of the same at this office or to Mr. A. M. Gibson, Queen Street.

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