

The Daily Mail

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Fredericton, N. B., Aug., 7, 1911

SIR JOHN AND RECIPROCITY

A favorite retort of Tory partisans when their attention is called to the fact that the great Sir John A. Macdonald favored reciprocity with the United States, is, "Oh, it was all right then, but things are different now." It is true there have been some changes since 1891, when Sir John appealed to the country on the reciprocity question and was sustained. The United States has added some thirty millions to her population, and has about reached her limit in the exportation of food products. Canada, too, has made some progress and is exporting more largely of foodstuffs than ever before in her history. Hundreds of thousands of new settlers have taken up homes in our great northwest and are producing about four times as much wheat as was the case in 1891, when the Conservative leaders were so anxious to obtain a measure of reciprocity. Canada's trade with the United States has grown with leaps and bounds and it is now greater by nearly one hundred million dollars than it is with all the rest of the world. Last year the United States bought from us goods to the value of \$226,000,000, and we exported to that country goods worth \$113,000,000. In other words, in addition to the goods we sold to that country we had to send along \$113,000,000 in cash to make up for the adverse balance of trade. Yes, it is true conditions have changed since 1891, but the arguments then advanced in favor of reciprocity apply with equal force at the present time.

Sir John Macdonald was in public life for nearly half a century, and it will be readily admitted that he was quite the equal in ability and statesmanship and as familiar with Canadian conditions as the gentleman who now leads the Conservative party. Sir John was a member of the government which ratified and carried into effect the old reciprocity treaty. He was prime minister of Canada in 1898, when the national policy was brought down and a standing offer of reciprocity with the United States was placed on the statute books. Speaking in parliament in 1884 on a motion of Sir Louis Davies, he expressed cordial approval of reciprocal trade in the following terms:

"I do not know any reason why the hon. gentleman who moved this, or the seconder, laid before the House these elaborate statements to show the value of reciprocal trade, or trade of any kind, with the United States. That is admitted. That goes without saying. We all admit that it would be well that we had a large trade with the United States, rather than a small one; and I think Canada, as compared in her action with the action of the United States, has done everything that she could in order to secure that desirable object. In the first place, there was the original reciprocity treaty which was finally consummated in 1854. The merit of that, as far as Canada was concerned, rested altogether with the administration of Sir Francis Hincks, the Liberal government of that day. Although the government of which I was a member in 1854 had accidentally, from the retirement of Sir Francis Hincks, the duty of carrying out the treaty to its consummation, by introducing and carrying into law the act which ratified that treaty, still it was the merit of the Reform party; and it was a great merit; it did a great service to Canada. That, as we all know, was a treaty for reciprocal free trade in the natural productions of the two countries. We regretted, when the Americans, from I must say, a rather natural feeling of irritation against England, gave notice for the cancellation and the termination of that treaty. It was no fault of Canada that that treaty was terminated."

That was the opinion of the great Sir John Macdonald in 1884 on the question of reciprocity. In 1878, when the national policy was brought down, he was told by Liberal members that it might interfere with our British connection. "So much the worse for British connection," was the cynical retort of Sir John. In 1891 we find him dissolving parliament and appealing to the people on the reciprocity issue. Here is a copy of a despatch sent by the government of that day to the secretary of state for the colonies and it speaks for itself:

"My Lord,—I have the honor to send to your Lordship today a telegraphic message in cipher of which the following is the substance:

"With reference to my telegram of the 10th instant, this government is desirous of proposing a joint commission such as that of 1871, with authority to deal without limitation, and to prepare a treaty respecting the following subjects.

"1. Renewal of the reciprocity treaty of 1854, with the modifications required by the altered circumstances of both countries and with the extensions deemed by the commission to be in the interests of Canada and the United States," dated Dec. 13, 1890."

Sir John Thompson, who afterwards became premier of Canada, was a member of the Conservative government in 1891, and represented the County of Antigonish, N.S. In his card to the electors of his constituency he said:

"The government of which I am a member is appealing to the country with a policy which we believe will be heartily endorsed by a great majority of the electors. We have made to the government of the United States through the government of Great Britain, proposals for reciprocity in trade, which we have good reason to believe will result in an arrangement by which the markets of the United States will be re-opened to the products which our people desire most to send there. A fair measure of reciprocity is what we desire and we have no doubt that that can be obtained without undue sacrifices."

The annexation bugaboo evidently cut no figure with the Conservative leaders in 1890, when they favored "a fair measure of reciprocity" and there is no reason why it should today. Knowing the attitude of their old time leaders on this great question, it is not surprising that hundreds of staunch Conservatives in York County and elsewhere today are heartily in favor of reciprocity and are utterly at a loss to understand why their party opposed the passage of the measure in parliament. The Mail does not claim that all the Conservatives who favor reciprocity will vote against their party at the approaching election, but we do claim that if it were possible to divorce it entirely from politics, four-fifths of the electors of York county, knowing the great benefits to be derived from such a measure, would give it their hearty support.

The Toronto Saturday Night an independent paper issues this warning to the Conservative leaders:

"If the Conservative leaders are so unwise as to take on the Nationalists and what they stand for, they will sow a whirlwind for themselves which they may reap later on. At best the Nationalists, as are a party a disturbing element; at worst, a serious menace to Canadian nationhood and any political party in Canada tying to Mr. Bourassa and his followers—most of them adventurers and opportunists—will live to rue the day."

It ought to be a pretty tough job to convince the farmers of York that they will be injured by a policy which will cheapen the cost of agriculture implements and at the same time give them a larger market.

Perhaps some of the Tory Barnstormers who will be swarming over the county during the next few weeks will buy the hay which the farmers have left over from last season. The Liberal government is endeavoring to obtain a larger market for hay.

In the death of Mr. George C. Hunt Fredericton loses an excellent citizen one who was actively identified with the commercial life of the city for over fifty years.

The loyal Tories who are so afraid of reciprocity will of course refuse to accept campaign funds from the United States. Nit.

Mr. C. W. McKee, of St. John, arrived in the city Saturday evening. Rev. J. A. Coope, of Millerton, is at the Queen.

RECIPROCITY AND THE LUMBERMAN

In the chorus of entreaty now going up in the anti-reciprocity press against opening the Canadian market to the competition of the ninety millions of people south of the border it will be observed that there has been no mention of the lumber industry. As the gentleman from Michigan would say, there's a reason.

Canada's markets are already wide open to lumber, chiefly hardwood and yellow pine, from the United States. It is imported duty free because the manufacturers and the house-building contractors of Canada need it in their business. For the Canadian lumberman reciprocity means no possible increase of competition from the south, and a very great increase of trade by reason of the entire removal of the United States duty on Canadian lumber. There are quite a few lumbermen who have been objecting to "jug-handled" free trade. They have urged that the government should direct its energies toward, getting the United States to remove the duty on Canadian lumber in consideration of the fact that Canada for many years has permitted the importation duty free of lumber from the United States. Now that the United States has agreed to that very thing they should lend their influence to the reciprocity agreement.

For the lumberman the adoption of reciprocity is all gain and no loss. The benefit of the removal of the United States duty on Canadian lumber will go in part to the consumer in the States in the form of lower prices, and in part to the Canadian lumberman and his employees in the form of higher wages and profits. How important to the Dominion the export of lumber and other forest products is can best be gathered from the fact that during the past five years the exports of forest products from Canada to the United States have been as follows:

1906,	\$23,085,040
1907 (nine months)	18,397,753
1908,	27,470,754
1909,	26,421,373
1910,	31,835,326

This is a total of \$127,210,246 in four years and nine months. Almost all of it had to face heavy duties. During the same period the United States sent \$35,770,314 of lumber and forest products to Canada, all of it duty free. The principal items on which the United States duties are to be entirely wiped out are as follows:

Hewn timber, present duty, 1 cent per cubic foot.
Sawn boards, planks, deals and other lumber not farther advanced than sawed, of whitewood, sycamore and basswood, present duty 50 cents per thousand feet.
Of other wood, including pine, present duty, \$1.25 per thousand feet.

Paving posts, railroad ties, poles of cedar or other wood, pickets and palings, present duty, 10 per cent.
Wooden staves, partially manufactured, present duty, from 10 to 20 per cent.

The remission of duty by the United States on sawed lumber alone, on the basis of the trade of 1910, will be \$1,219,970 per year. That is why the lumbermen are largely for Laurier and larger markets.

CAMPAIGN NOTES

Dr. Beland of Beauce, who is to succeed Hon. Rudolph Lemieux as Postmaster General will be sworn in to office today. Hon. Mr. Lemieux takes the portfolio of minister of marine in succession of Hon. Mr. Brodeur who goes to the supreme court bench.

The Liberals of Carleton County meet in convention at Woodstock this evening to nominate a candidate. Mr. F. B. Carvell, M. P. will be the choice and will at once enter upon an aggressive campaign with every prospect of winning a great victory. Mr. R. W. Hewson, barrister of Moncton is talked of as the Tory Candidate in Westmorland in opposition to Hon. H. R. Emmerson.

St. John Liberals will meet in convention on Thursday evening to nominate candidates.

The York County farmer who is carrying over last year's hay should vote for reciprocity and the larger market.

There is nothing to hinder schoolers, which bring hard coal to Fredericton in the spring of the year, from carrying back cargoes of pressed hay to the United States.

There are a whole lot of good, solid, respectable men in York County waiting for an opportunity to cast their ballots against O. S. Crockett.

A member of Parliament who spends his time scandal mongering is not much of an asset for any constituency.

DEATH OF MRS F.W. SUMNER

The death of Mrs F. W. Sumner of Moncton took place early Sunday morning at her summer home, Cape Shediac. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. H. C. Farmer of St. John, is at the Queen.

COL. McLEAN IS
CONFIDENT OF VICTORY

(St. John Telegraph)

Arriving from Ottawa on Saturday Col. H. H. McLean was full of confidence regarding the outcome of the approaching elections. He will go into Queens county today to start the fight on the hustings.

The opening meeting will be held at Chipman tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock. Addresses covering the issues of the campaign will be delivered by Col. McLean, Hon. C. W. Robinson and A. B. Copp, M. P. P. The meeting will be held in a large tent to accommodate the crowds expected. A band will furnish music.

Rumors have been circulated of disaffection in the Tory camp as to the choice of a candidate. The names of Judson Hetherington, Hon. J. D. Hazen and F. St. John Bliss have been mentioned in this connection and the latest name to be added to the list is that of L. B. Smith of Sunbury.

MARYSVILLE TOPICS

Aug. 7.—Miss Bailey of Newcastle, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Reid.

The Marysville Band met at the residence of Mr. Alexander Gibson, Sr., on Saturday evening and serenaded Mr. Gibson in honor of his ninety-first birthday. The bandmen were invited into the house, where speeches were made and light refreshments served.

Miss Geraldine Deid of Fredericton, is spending a few days with her father, Mr. Millard Reid.

Mrs. Frederick S. Williams went to St. John on Saturday.

Mrs. Frederick Rowley and three children of Kingston, Jamaica, are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Rowley, Miss May Rowley, who has been in Jamaica for the last ten months, returned on Saturday.

The band played a programme of popular airs on the band stand on Saturday evening, which was much enjoyed.

Rev. W. J. Fowler and Mrs. Fowler and the Misses H. and F. Fowler, of Montreal, are in the city.

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Side Frill Pleating,
Colored Sailor Knots.

JOHN J. WEDDALL & SON

September Fashion Sheets to hand, also Reynier Gloves, Kaiser Silk Gloves.

PAINT IT RED

A number of Brick Buildings in the city are pretty shabby because of years of exposure to the weather.

These can be very greatly
Improved in Appearance

by painting. The best article to use is *Brandram's Flat Brick Paint* as supplied by us for the Sharkey, Inches and Calder Blocks and to others.

A very good article, but cheaper, is

::: Opalite Brick Water Paint :::

Our own premises are painted with this; Come in and see it.

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