

The Daily Mail

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Fredericton, N. B., Feb. 3, 1911

SHAMELESS METHODS

The debate which occurred this week in the Commons shows to what utter baseness Toryism is willing to resort at the present time in order, if possible, to injure and discredit the government or any of its individual members. A few days ago, a report was invented that W. R. Travers, late manager of the defunct Farmers' bank, who is soon to serve a sentence in the penitentiary, had contributed to the money gift of Mr. Fielding a year ago. The report was instantly nailed as purely mendacious yet Mr. Boyce, a blatant Tory member from Algoma, in the House Wednesday, introduced a resolution which by implication at least, bolstered up the same lying report. When he finished his speech the finance minister arose, greeted by a storm of cheers, and in a quiet voice, tence with feeling, reviewed the whole matter in a most effective manner. Sir Wilfrid followed him and gave a most eloquent and impressive speech in Mr. Fielding's defence. In conclusion he said:

"The man is not living who can, with honesty, breathe a suspicion as to the character of the minister of finance. There are, after all, certain things, however bitter may be our political differences, which in our hearts we know to be true. There is not a man on the opposite side of the House who believes Mr. Fielding capable of a dishonorable act as a public man."

Mr. R. L. Borden, while declaring in favor of the publication of the names of the contributors, paid this compliment to Mr. Fielding:

"I accept absolutely, not merely in the parliamentary sense, every word he stated, and I desire to pay tribute to his indefatigable service, his hard and earnest work in the administration of his department."

Boyce's resolution was negated by a majority of 55, the largest the government has recorded on a division during the present session.

"If," said The Tory St. John Standard, "there is one subject more than another upon which the opposition press and speakers alike avoid it is the comparative cost of criminal prosecutions under the old regime and under the Hazen government." All that need be said in reply to this is that under the old government criminals were prosecuted, while under the Hazen government they are usually allowed to escape punishment for their misdeeds. The manner in which criminal justice is administered in New Brunswick at the present time is little less than a scandal.

The Tories who have been boasting all along that they were going to sweep Nova Scotia whenever the provincial elections were called on, showed the white feather in Kings county on Wednesday. They failed to bring forward a candidate to contest the county at a bye-election to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Dodge, and Mr. H. W. Wickwire was returned by acclamation. Kings is represented in the federal parliament by Sir Frederick Borden.

The St. John Tory Standard boasts that the Hazen government has expended less on criminal prosecutions than the old government. It might have gone a little further and pointed out that in many instances the government received very little value for the money spent. Only once did Mr. Hazen put forth an effort to prosecute a criminal and that was in the case of an unfortunate newspaperman who libelled a close political friend of the attorney general.

Woodstock Sentinel-Review:—One thing that makes some of the opponents of reciprocity particularly sore is that the negotiations have belied all their gloomy prophecies. They had expected that Canada would sacrifice everything and gain nothing, and they were prepared for such an outcome. For what has been the outcome they were wholly unprepared, and a lot of the ammunition they had stored away for the attack is worse than useless.

Wainwright (Alberta) Star:—After having been carried for hundreds of miles against their will, at times on sleds or cars, two large moose arrived here yesterday for the Wainwright Buffalo park. The moose have had a long and weary experience since their capture in the Peace River county some time ago. Arriving in Edmonton, they were placed in the livery stables, there awaiting their shipment here. In all there are now nine moose at the local park.

Stratford Beacon:—The talk about reciprocal trade leading to annexation with the United States is the essence of absurdity. If the argument was carried into family life we would only deal with our brothers, sisters, cousins, uncles and aunts, our neighbors being looked upon as enemies to be shunned even in the exchange of poultry and eggs. It is a poor patriotism that would be affected by such business relations.

Victoria Times:—We have heard of no fearful lapses during the present winter as a result of the Methodist footnote in regard to dancing and theatres being struck out. The same people dance and attend theatres who danced and attended them last year. We doubt even if any tender consciences have been relieved by the action of the general conference. Blue laws do not bother people in these latter days.

It is interesting to note that some of the men who are now attacking the proposed reciprocity agreement on the ground that its consummation would be dangerous to imperial connection, are the very ones who a few weeks ago were encouraging Mr. Bourassa and his friends in their separatist campaign in Drummond-Arthabaska. These gentlemen will ride any horse in the effort to injure the Liberal government.

The St. Croix Courier, a Conservative newspaper published in a border county, sizes up the reciprocity situation pretty accurately when it says: "In these maritime provinces, reciprocity and its undoubted benefits has been a consummation long devoutly desired by men giving allegiance to both political parties."

The Tories at Ottawa have held several caucuses, but have not yet reached an agreement on the reciprocity question. In the meantime the Fredericton Gleaner has made the discovery that reciprocity with the United States would be a bad thing for Canada.

Mr. O. S. Crockett, M. P. for York, has not yet been heard from on the reciprocity agreement. In the old days when Mr. Crockett sailed under the Liberal banner, he used to think reciprocity would be a good thing for Canada.

Speaking of Drummond-Arthabaska York county people have yet to learn whether Mr. Crockett, M.P., is favorable to Mr. Bourassa and Nationalism or whether he is opposed to separatism. Mr. Crockett will play the game too long.

St. Andrews Beacon:—It looked for a time as if the snow was going to refuse to lie upon the Hazen roads, but it has come at last and all the ruts and hummocks on the many-guttered roads are buried out of sight.

The Tories had a splendid opportunity to test public opinion on the reciprocity question in Kings county, N.S., this week, but they allowed a Liberal candidate for the legislature to be returned unopposed.

It is almost time the Hazen government was mustering up sufficient courage to summon the legislature for the despatch of business.

Mr. G. E. Howie, C. E., has returned from Winnipeg, where he attended a convention of Canadian Civil Engineers.

TORIES BADLY BALLED UP ON RECIPROCITY ISSUE

Western Members Said to be Favorable to the Agreement--A Six Hour Caucus at Ottawa was Without Result--Believed That the Party Will Adopt a go as You Please Policy.

Ottawa, Feb. 2.—After six hours of caucusing last night and this morning on the reciprocity agreement with the United States, Mr. Borden's followers are still unable to find out just where they are at.

They are on the horns of a dilemma. Not to oppose the agreement, which promises to be the largest political influence in the next general election campaign, would give the government an immense tactical advantage and leave the opposition, as in the last campaign, without any large issue on which to make their appeal. It would be a tacit endorsement of the government's fiscal policy.

On the other hand, opposition to the agreement by the party, as a whole, is believed by many to be impolitic, since it would be running counter to the common sense of the people and the general interests of the country.

MANY FAVOR RECIPROCITY

There is a large section of the party that is strenuously opposed to any such suicided policy and who realize that their constituents cannot be hoodwinked by the specious arguments of the special interests now criticising the agreement.

The western Conservatives and most of the representatives from rural constituencies, recognizing that their only hope of re-election is to get in with the Liberals in support of the agreement, are strongly urging the party not to make the tactical mistake of voting against it. On the other hand, some of the eastern urban representatives and ultra Tory members are anxious to adopt the usual policy of beating the imperialistic drum and opposing the government, whether right or wrong.

As a result of the opposing views no decision as to party policy had been reached when the caucus broke up this afternoon. Another effort will be made to reach some acceptable compromise between the divergent sections of the party before Tuesday next when the debate on Mr. Fielding's resolutions will be reached.

GO-AS-YOU-PLEASE POLICY LIKELY

It is considered probable that the ultimate decision will be to let each member of the opposition act in the matter as he thinks will best suit his political interests in his own constituency. Some comparatively non-committal opposition amendment may be agreed upon expressing regret that the government is endangering the consummation of the scheme of

inter-imperial preferential trade.

Indications point to an opposition policy of damning the reciprocity agreement with faint praise and criticizing it in particular cases where temporary embarrassment may be at the same time coming out openly against the special interests, without against it as a whole.

The Liberals on the other hand, are practically a unit in enthusiastic endorsement of the agreement as a whole. Almost the only objection comes from the Liberal representatives of the fruit and market garden districts of Ontario, who fear the competition of early American fruits and vegetables. It is safe to predict, however, that when the final vote on the tariff resolution is reached they will be supported by a solid government majority and the agreement as a whole will not be very bitterly fought by a united opposition.

TAFT SOUNDS SENATORS

Washington, Feb. 2.—The legislative programme in congress was discussed by President Taft with a number of congressional callers, among whom were Senators Root, Crane, Lodge, Beveridge and Representative Mann.

Senator Root declared that, while he was strongly in favor of the Canadian reciprocity agreement, he was doubtful if it would pass at this session, owing to the large amount of necessary legislation which the senate must dispose of before adjourning. He expressed the hope, however, that the agreement might be agreed to before March 4.

The first hearing granted by the ways and means committee of the house upon the proposed reciprocity agreement with Canada, was occupied today with the protests of Gloucester fishermen who strongly opposed the free fish provisions of the compact.

Men long identified with the fishing trade testified that the industry would not be able to survive the effect of free admission of fish from Canada. They say that the Gloucester trade has been little more than holding its own for many years, and that the removal of the tariff barrier would wipe out all profit.

Arthur Millet, of the bureau of fisheries, testified as to the value and condition of the Gloucester business. He said that 143,881 men and a property valued at \$2,175,000 are embraced in the Gloucester fishing business.

All of the fishermen delegates declared that the removal of the duty on fish would seriously affect the business.

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THE HARDWARE PEOPLE

**VICTIM OF STOCK MARKET
COMMITTS SUICIDE**

New York, Feb. 2.—The body of Edward St. John, assistant treasurer of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co., of New York, Pittsburg and other cities, was found in the surf off Coney Island today. It was fully dressed and there is no other theory advanced than that he committed suicide by drowning himself sometime during the past twenty four hours, because of a shortage in his accounts due to speculation in Wall street with the company's funds. The amount is estimated to be not greater than \$50,000. He was bonded for \$15,000.

The shortage was not discovered until after the report of his suicide today," said Vice-President Charles A. Terry of the Westinghouse company tonight. "St. John had been in the employ of the Westinghouse for ten years and for the latter half of that time had been assistant treasurer here. He had charge of collections and disbursements and his misappropriations of negotiable securities which he handled is a surprise to all his associates."

Mr. Terry added that he believed this was St. John's first venture in Wall street. St. John was 60 years of age and married. He lived in the Flatbush avenue section of Brooklyn.

Don't use soda for washing china with gilt on it. If you don't be surprised if the gilt gradually disappears. Use a good yellow soap as a cleaning agent and no harm will be done.

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