

SURTAX AND PREFERENCE.

Lively Continuation of the Debate in Parliament in Which Tories Were Badly Worst.

Ottawa, April 24.—In the House of Commons Dr. Sproule last evening said the government's dealings with Germany were a sample of their unbusinesslike blundering from the time they reached power until the present. When the Liberals came in they were going to get better trade relations with the United States and they had not kept their word. They had engaged in a commercial war against Germany, which was a growing market for barley, wheat, rye and other lines. Was it any wonder, after the surtax was imposed, that Germany hated Canada? This country invited the antagonism of sixty million people. Much blowing of trumpets had marked the treaty with Trinidad, but what did it amount to? "Canada has lost the market of 60,000,000 people through the folly of this government, and we have got nothing to take its place," declared Dr. Sproule.

Dr. Chisholm complained that the heavy duties against Germany made the price of sugar too high, and also was the cause of obstacles to a valuable market for our apples.

THE PEOPLE APPROVE.

Hon. Mr. Patterson vigorously replied. The country, he said, had pronounced in two elections on the British preference, and sent back to power the party which had enacted it. That preference was the basis of the dispute with Germany. When the German surtax was proposed in the House it had been agreed to unanimously. The Opposition had then argued that it should have been done long before.

"Responsible members," said Mr. Patterson, "now get up and say that the German market is absolutely necessary to the prosperity of this country. We don't believe that."

(Applause.) Out of the British preference had sprung the whole difficulty with Germany. That preference the farmers of Canada wanted maintained, as they had testified before the Tariff Commission from the Atlantic to the Pacific. (Applause.)

They believed that the British market for \$150,000,000. In fact the exports to Germany were about the same now as in 1902, but the imports were reduced from \$10,919,994 in 1902 to \$6,642,139 last year. Yet when Germany came to Canada for better treatment—as it was the country that was suffering—they would say that members of the House said Canada was in an awful position. (Applause.)

Mr. Patterson said Canada had nothing to take back in regard to the preference. No country must undertake to discipline Canada if she saw fit to enact a tariff that would give a preference to other parts of the empire. (Applause.)

Mr. Patterson proposed that the gentleman opposite should get from Germany to keep our agriculturists from being ruined. Did they propose that we should lower the tariff or simply wipe out the surtax? When the German representatives came to treat with the Canadian government they would say, "We see it is a matter of life and death, from what some of your representatives in Parliament say. You ought to be content if we lower the duties on apples and you wipe of the surtax." (Government cheers and laughter.) It was unfortunate that this question had been brought up at the present time. While anxious to extend trade as much as possible, Canadians were not prepared to be dictated to as to how

they should manage their fiscal affairs in their own interest.

WOULD WIPE OUT THE PREFERENCE.

Mr. Henderson suggested that the heat shown by the Finance Minister and the Minister of Customs was the result of the realization by the government of the fact that they had made a huge blunder in fiscal policy. He challenged the government to show that the Canadian farmers had got one cent a bushel more for wheat or one cent per pound more for butter because of the preferential tariff. "Why should we do something for Britain that will hurt our own Canadian people? I am a Canadian first and British afterwards; I don't believe in taking bread out of the mouths of Canadian workmen for the sake of helping British workmen," Mr. Campbell added that he would not wipe the present preferential tariff off the statute book.

BRITISH MARKET THE BEST.

Mr. Schell (Oxford) speaking as a practical farmer, replying to Mr. Henderson's denial that the farmers had benefited by the preferential tariff, quoted the exports of cheese, which had risen from 164,689,133 pounds at 8.46 cents per pound to 233,980,716 pounds at 10.29 cents per pound in 1905; the butter exports at 17 cents per pound to 5.5 had also increased from 1,552,000 930,000 pounds at 18 cents per pound.

Touching upon the apple trade Mr. Schell pointed out that the German market for Canadian apples amounted to \$80,000 a year, while the English market during the same time had taken nearly \$2,500,000. Speaking from personal experience, he had found the British market better and willing to pay a higher price than Germany, and he, for one, was not prepared to sacrifice our national dignity by pandering to the German market.

HON. SYDNEY FISHER.

Mr. Fisher regretted that the Opposition had taken the position that the British preference should be done away with in order that Canada might get into the German market, which was the only logical and fair construction to be placed on the argument they had offered. Up to tonight he had never heard any responsible man in public life characterize the denunciation of the German and Belgian treaties as a blunder. It was deplorable to see a great political party in parliament taking the position which the Opposition had deliberately taken upon this question.

At length, Mr. Fisher justified his declaration that the Canadian farmer did not take the ground that unless his products were given a preference in the British market he would disrupt the empire. The Conservative opposition to the British preference was inspired by purely partisan sentiment, because it was a measure produced by the Liberal government. The Conservatives had always professed loyalty but had never done anything to help British commerce.

SOME PERSONAL REFERENCES.

The debate was continued by Messrs. D. Derbyshire, G. W. Fowler, H. Bennett, Alex. Johnston, who reviewed Mr. Bennett's libel suit and called him a convicted slanderer and self-confessed briber; George Taylor, Houghton Lennox, who contended that the proceedings in the libel suit against Mr. Bennett disclosed nothing that reflected any discredit upon the munificence of that gentleman, but that he was to a certain extent indiscreet.

The motion was consented to by the government and the House adjourned at 11.30 p. m.

WHAT CAUSES EARTHQUAKES?

Scientists Discuss the Origin of Cataclysms Such as Have Just Ravaged California.

Philadelphia, April 25.—The scientists gathered here for the Franklin celebration have been discussing the California earthquake. Here are some of the explanations:

THE EARTH CONTRACTED.

Dr. W. F. Holland, head of the Carnegie Institute at Pittsburgh, one of the first authorities in the world on this subject, holds that the probable cause of the earthquake lies in the shrinking of the ground at various points.

"The earth is a sphere," said Professor Holland. "It is constantly cooling and contracting, and as it shrinks about its core its outer surface necessarily must yield and form a cavity with the changing conditions and from what I know of the coast line along San Francisco, I have no doubt that this is the explanation of the awful disaster."

It has been proved that at various places the surface of the earth is cracking, and lines are faulting, as they are known by geologists, are being developed. These lines of faulting are to be found along the whole western coast of North and South America. And wherever this faulting is found the surface of the earth is either raised or lowered.

"As a result of the constant down-

pour of mud and water into the hot-ter or lower strata, volcanics are developed. I shall, perhaps, express the whole subject in one comprehensive sentence if I say that the present earthquake was due to a readjustment of the earth's surface, in obedience to the law of gravity and the law of shrinkage. The old earth simply shrugs her shoulders and she throws off a weight that is pressing unfairly upon her."

"Now, I do not think that this earthquake was due to anything in the nature of a volcanic force. You may remember, however, that I investigated the vast quantity of mud on the sea floor of the sphere, so that there was presently an uneven adjustment of weights. Between the upper crust of the earth's surface, near the coast, caused by the accumulation of mud drying and cooling, and the lower strata in a cavity. This cavity is caused, in its turn, by the gradual accumulation of water, which, generating heat, forms steam. Thus the upper crust of the earth is

turned into so much liquid lava, and sooner or later the hollow upper crust, like the hollow crust of a pie, caves in, and you get the earthquake."

PROFESSOR CHAMBERLAIN'S VIEWS.

"It is impossible for any scientist or any geologist to say precisely the cause of earthquakes," said Prof. T. C. Chamberlain of Chicago, another eminent authority. "But from my own knowledge of the conditions I am of the opinion that this earthquake, like so many others that have preceded it in this region, was due to the weakening of the earth's crust along the line of the Sierras. Whenever you find a line of fracture the earth gives way or shifts, and you get a landslide. A shift of a quarter of an inch, making itself felt over a range of forty miles, will be sufficient to cause a profound shock."

"Frequently the earthquake is caused by the breaking and shifting of rocks along the sea line. There is a sort of shelving movement of the landside, and this is always likely to happen whenever the surface of the sea coast is thin and unsettled, as is that of the Pacific Coast along North and South America."

"Another cause or part of the same cause is the slipping of the strata underground as a result of the tension, the tension being caused by one of the several causes connected with the gravity of the rock. There is then a thrust of a lateral movement forward, which, in the natural relaxations, slip backward, and this is the earthquake."

NO ONE REALLY KNOWS.

"Whenever I am asked to speculate on the causes of earthquakes," said Professor Davis of Pittsburgh, "I always reply in the words of Joseph Billings, 'Never prophesy unless you know.'"

No geologist alive can say positively where or how an earthquake begins. It is all very well to talk learnedly about fissures in coast lines and weaknesses in the earth's structure. It reminds me of the famous experience of Sir William Dawson of Canada, one of the greatest geologists we have ever known. He had been lecturing to an audience of students in New York on the causes of earthquakes, and he said, among other things, that the settled firm condition of the Atlantic coast made an earthquake next to impossible, while the coast line of the Pacific coast was uneven and shifting. The very next day we got the news of the earthquake at Charleston. Sir William apologized and took it all back, saying that he was now convinced that no man could figure on an earthquake."

PROFESSOR SCOTT'S BELIEF.

Prof. William B. Scott, who has the chair of geology at Princeton, holds that the earthquake was caused by the gradual weakening of the upper strata of the earth's surface along the Pacific. This shrinking, he said, was caused by the cooling of the strata, the strata being formed from the masses of mud brought down from the adjacent rivers, which lodged in the seabed.

"All through the western part of the country, from Salt Lake to the coast," said Professor Scott, "are fork or fissures, any one of which might be the slightest jar, can cause an earthquake."

The earthquake is due in all probability to a weakness underlying the earth's surface in mountain districts," said Professor Doolittle. "You will find that many earthquakes occur in the mountainous regions, as in Central America and in Mexico."

THE HAPPINESS OF HOME.

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STRIKING PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF San Francisco's Great Disaster.

San Francisco, April 24.—The following are personal experiences of prominent men of San Francisco: James D. Phelan, former mayor of San Francisco, and chairman finance relief committee, said: "When I was awakened in my house by the shock, I made my way down town toward the fire which was branching in two directions. One branch of the fire destroyed my office building on Market street and the other my home in the Mission. Of my personal effects I saved but few. My family left my home and went to Golden Gate Park, where I followed and pitched two tents which I had at my home. Later, I accompanied my family to Burlingame, twenty miles south, in an automobile. "The city will be rebuilt on lines of strength and architectural beauty heretofore unknown."

RUDOLPH SPRECKELS' EXPERIENCE.

Rudolph Spreckels said: "I can give no connected account of my experience now. I have not had time to think about myself. I volunteered as a special officer and assisted the firemen in trying to check the fire and my experience on Van Ness avenue and Union street was certainly a thrilling one. Of course, San Francisco will be rebuilt, and better than ever."

Herman Oelrichs told this experience: "I was in St. Francis Hotel. I lost all my personal effects except the

THE HERALDS FASHION PLATE.



A PRETTY AND GIRLISH APRON.

White aprons for the girl under 10 are again the fashion. They not only serve as a protection for the frock over which they are worn, but are attractive and becoming as well, especially if made on the lines of the popular Mother Hubbard pattern. The skirt as shown in this example of plain white lawn, is cut quite full, gathered slightly under the arms, and finished with a deep hem, which may

be let out as the skirts of the frock are lengthened. Then there is a very shallow yoke of two thicknesses of the lawn, and to this the skirt is gathered, the yoke completely covered by the berthe of the lawn, inset with Valenciennes insertion, the many pointed edge finished with a narrow frill of fine Swiss embroidery. The fastening is in the back. The white apron serves a double purpose, as it may be worn as an overdress, with a dainty guimpe beneath during the summer time.

WOULD FORCE MEN TO RECORD VOTE.

Question is Discussed by Special Committee—Much Difference of Opinion.

Ottawa Free Press.—The special committee of parliament that has been considering suggestions for the improvement of the Canadian election laws discussed today the advisability of what is commonly known as "compulsory voting," and the advantages that might be derived from an enactment to disqualify a man who neglects to use his vote in parliamentary elections. The feeling of the committee is against compulsory voting but the opinions offered look as though they would be recommending to parliament that any man who neglects to use his vote shall be disfranchised for some years thereafter.

"Compulsory Voting," remarked the Minister of Justice, "would be impossible so far as Quebec is concerned."

In answer to an enquiry for his opinion on the subject, Dr. Stockton, Conservative of St. John, said, "I don't think it would be practicable. I think that such a course would be going the wrong way to do away with bribery and corruption than any other measure you could possibly carry through the House."

The new postmaster-general, Hon.

Mr. Aylesworth, took absolutely the reverse idea and could not see what good such a law could possibly do.

Mr. Barker, Conservative, of Hamilton, rather agreed with his colleague Mr. Ingram that the adoption of the latter's proposal would have a great effect.

The Minister of Justice admitted that there was a class that showed very little appreciation of the public duty that the franchise carried with it. He had little respect for the man who put a slight value on his right to vote as not to think it worth his while visiting a polling booth on election day. In Quebec every man owning real property had his name inscribed on the voters' lists and in this way the privilege came to them so easily that they did not value it as they should.

Perhaps the passage of such a measure as Mr. Ingram advised might have a good effect.

Attention was called to the fact that a special committee of the House a few years ago advised the disfranchisement for six years of any qualified voter who abstains from casting his ballot in a parliamentary contest. The scheme then proposed left it to the judge to make an exception of any case when a voter's non-attendance at the poll was due to sickness or other legitimate cause. The subject will be further considered when the committee meets again next week.

Mrs. Waddlesleigh—Can it be possible that this is a picture of your daughter when she was a baby?

Mrs. Ponsonby—Yes, that's Lillian as she looked when she was three years old. Don't you think she was a beautiful child?

Mrs. W.—Very. Isn't it strange what a difference about thirty years makes in a person's looks?

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" 321 Suburban for Marysville.....	11.15
" 323 Suburban for Marysville.....	12.25
" 325 Suburban for Marysville.....	12.55

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" 322 Suburban from Marysville.....	13.25
" 324 Suburban from Marysville.....	19.15

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Moncton, N. B., Oct. 12th, 1905

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