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### Everything But Office.

The Thompson Government is notable mainly for its readiness to surrender anything and everything where the demand for such is pressed with sufficient vigor. While professing to consider the old tariff perfect the Ministry offered, in response to the clamor of those who felt it to be a burden, a wholesale revision of duties. But in doing this offence was given to certain manufacturers, and since then the Government has been busily engaged in making fresh changes in order to placate those private interests the hostility of which had been aroused by the feeble effort to satisfy the general public.

To this end the thirty-five per cent. tax on democrats has been restored as a sop to carriage manufacturers, the pressure of packers has forced a return to specific duties on meats; wall paper manufacturers have been granted further opportunities for taxing the consumer, and the demands of the rice men have also been complied with. If any other protected interest wants greater favor than a customs tariff ranging from 25 to 125 per cent. affords, it should speak now. The Government is ready to give up anything asked for except its control of office and the emoluments

thereto attached.

### Van Horne's Frophecies.

When Van Horne a few weeks since predicted an increase of \$1.40 per bushel in the price of wheat he did not assume the role of prophet for the first time. It was a year or two earlier that he first attempted to lift the veil and peer into the future. On this last-mentioned occasion he took as the subject of his prophecy C. P. R. stock, which, he is alleged to have then said, would soon reach par. But, instead of going up, the railway's security has been steadily dropping ever since. About a year and a-half ago it was quoted at 89. Less than a year back saw it down to 75 and lower still, and now it is down to 68. Thus in less than 18 months there has been a total drop of 21 points. If the president of the Canadian Pacific is not more successful as a grain than he has been as a railway prophet it will be a bad thing for the farmers of Manitoba. A fall of 21 cents in the price of wheat, with stationary rates for carrying it, would about mean ruin to them .- News.

### The Cattle Question.

London, April 24 .- (Telegram cable.) -The Times to-day, adverting to Mr. Gardner's replies to questions submitted yesterday in the House of Commons in reference to the probable removal of the existing embargo on the importation of cattle from Canada, says that the British farmers will see in the statements of the President of the Board of Agriculture much reason to fear an early withdrawal of the restrictions upon which they now believe the security of their herds depends. The farmer has all to lose, while the Canadians run no risk whatever, and have everything to gain. If the case were reversed, adds The Times, the gravest doubt might safely be ventured that the Colonial Government would ever listen for an instant to the pleadings of the British exporter. It is to the misfortune of the British farmer that every attempt to exclude from the country the terrible scourge among cattle known as tuberculosis is capable of being represented as a disguised attempt to obstruct and set aside the well-meant intentions of those who are desirous of encouraging a spirit friendly to the development of free trade.

Seeding is now about finished in Manitoba and the North-west, and in some districts grain already shows above ground.

Father Murphy, proprietor of a Gold Cure Institute at Montreal, was fined \$50 or 60 days yesterday for illegally practising medicine.

It is said Lord Tweedmouth has saved £26,000 by promptness in proving the will of his father, thus escaping the new tax on estates.

A deputation of some half a dozen leading citizens of the town of Huntsville waited upon Sir Oliver Mowat about 1 o'clock on Saturday afternoon to ask aid from the Government on behalf of those who had suffered from the recent conflagration there. The Premier promised that a grant of \$1.500 would be made towards relieving the distress at present existing among the people Lurned out.