Supplement to the Post.

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THE MARKET FOR EGGS.

Views of Three of the Largest Shippers in Canada.

Farmers are told that the English market for eggs is better than the United States. Returns from special shipments of picked lots are published in the attempt to show this to be the case. But shippers who have the largest interest in Canada's egg exports, and who are most likely to understand the trade and find the best market, declare these returns to be unreliable. The three largest shippers in Canada are D. D. Wilson & Son, Seaforth; J. D. Moore, St. Mary's, and T. C. McNabb, Chatham. What do they say?

MR. J. D. MOORE.

"People talk of an unlimited market over there, and say that Britain imports six times as many eggs as the United States. The thing that interests the producer is the price he is to get. It does not matter how many eggs Great Britain imports if she has been getting all she wants at prices lower than the market to which our eggs have been going. The British market has been supplied from countries adjacent—from France, Belgium, Holland, Denmark and other countries—until the market has been overstocked and a large overflow found its way to the United States. That was the situation until the McKinley Bill came into effect. The English market was flooded before, and now the overflow to the United States is turned back, and it is in that market some super-sanguine people look for a market for our eggs that will be better than that of New York; a market which, even before the immense quantities that have been taken by the United States were turned to it, was less profitable than the American one. . . . . . No matter how we fix it we cannot hope to get as profitable returns in England as we did in New York."

MR. JOHN A. WILSON.

Mr. John A. Wilson of Messrs. D. D. Wilson & Son says:—"The thing that has made Canadian eggs preferred in New York over the Western eg s was the quickness with which we could send them there, only taking a few days. In England Canada will be at the disadvantage of distance from the market. There will be in that market the prejudice against Canadian eggs that in New York there has been against the product of the Western States. The fact that Irish and English eggs command a higher price in the English market than Normandy eggs is evidence of the effect on the price of their having to go a little farther."

MR. T. C. McNABB.

"I agree with Mr. Moore that the indications are that the American market may still be the most profitable for our trade. There are plenty of letters in the newspapers about selling eggs in England, the good prices and the large quantity required. All that amounts to nothing unless we know what it costs to market them. It makes no difference to the farmer what quantity of eggs is bought annually by England. The thing that is of importance is the profit and the price shippers will be able to pay. Not one of the prolific letter-writers on the subject of eggs has told us what it costs to sell in England, and it is in the cost of marketing that the British market will be less profitable to the shippers than the New York."

WHAT THE DUTY MEANS.

These shippers are reliable witnesses. They have built up the Canadian egg trade. They are not politicians, but shrewd, enterprising business men, and they base their judgment on shipments they have made to England. They have shipped eggs to Liverpool. Under the most favorable conditions, taking all the precautions that their long experience suggested, and in no case had the re ults been so profitab e as in the New York market. Egg dealers endorse Mr. J. D. Moore's calculation that the United Sta es co sumers will probably pay one cent of the duty on eggs levied by the McKinley B ll, and the Canadian produc rs will pay the other four cents. This means that the wives of the Canadian farmers when they sell their eggs this season will have to take four cents a dozen less than they would get but for the McKinley duty. If the egg product of he country which last year gave 15 000,000 dozens of exports does not decrease the loss **to the farmers' wives this year will be $600,000** on Mr. M ore's moderate estimate. For the next five years, if Sir John Macdonald's Government be elected, **the loss will be $3,000,000.** If as, may be fairly done, the whole duty of five cents a dozen be calculated, **the loss for the year will be $750,000. and for the five years $3,250,000.** If the Liberal party be successful in these elections the duty will be thrown off under the reciprocal relations that will be arranged. And the market in which Canada's egg trade has grown from 17,000 dozens in 1870 to 15,000,000 dozens in 1890 **will be re-opened.**

HARDWARE.

Reciprocity Would Bring Down Prices to the Consumer.

When the farmer goes to the hardware store to buy his farm implements, utensils, nails, etc., he is made to pay into the pocket of the pampered manufacturer from 30 per cent. more than the proper market value of the article to as high as 50 per cent. on some articles. And when he buys barbed wire, $1 50 per hundred pounds is the toll extracted from him for the barbed wire combine. The farmers hear enough of general statements, but here are some details furnished last December by Mr. G. A. Neveux of the firm of G. A. & E. B. Neveux, merchants in Windsor, who are continuing the oldest hardware business in that town. Mr. Neveux is in a position to see the great increase in the prices of goods in Canada by reason of the tariff by comparing them with the prices across the river in Detroit. Mr. Neveux says of nails, which every farmer uses to a considerable extent and which go so largely into innumerable things:—

"Nails that can be bought for $2 10 or $2 25 per keg across the river are **kept up to $2 60 or to $2 80** by the Canadian manufacturers. The duty is one dollar on a keg, and in the nail-makers are discovered a class of manufacturers who do not avail themselves of their full duty privilege, but are content with **an advance on American prices of about 24 per cent.,** or about one-half what they might extract."

SHOVELS, SPADES AND AXES.

For shovels, spades, axes and such articles the combines make the farmers pay through the nose. Mr. Neveux gives an insight into these lines of extortion:—

"We can buy shovels and spades in Detroit as cheap, after paying the duty, as the Canadian manufacturers will sell to us. The difference in carriage charges helps us to do this. We are so near Detroit that we are in a better position than dealers in the interior. But the interesting point in connection with shovels and spades—implements that are so commonly used as to make their cost of importance—is that the Canadian manufacturers are making the people pay them more than they can be bought for in Detroit, more by the amount of the duty. The same applies to axes of the better qualities. **The duty on axes is also heavy $2 a dozen and 10 per cent. We can buy in Detroit for $6 an axe that the Canadian manufacturers will not sell for less than $10.** The Canadian manufacturers make plenty of cheap axes, but our customers want good ones, and we buy a large number on the other side and bring them in at less cost after paying the duty than the Canadian prices. **All builders' hardware is cheaper by 45 to 50 per cent. in Detroit than in Canada.** The duty is 35 per cent., and we can lay these goods down 10 to 15 per cent. cheaper by buying in Detroit and paying the duty. We do a large business in these lines and buy a great deal across the river. Then take rubber goods, packing and hose. There is a duty of five cents a pound and 15 per cent. I bought last week in Detroit the same grade of garden hose at 4¾c a foot for which Canadian houses charge eight cents. And so I might go on mentioning other lines of hardware and ironware."

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

How the Wider Market Would Benefit Both Farmers and Manufacturers.

The farmers of Canada are standing in their own light, says Mr. William Risdon, proprietor of the Erie Iron Works, St. Thomas, if they continue to support the National Policy. Mr. Risdon makes all kinds of small agricultural implements, such as ploughs, cultivators, rollers, etc. He is not only not afraid of the United States competition, but he says he will be able to go into the markets of Michigan under unrestricted reciprocity.

Speaking of the comparative prices of small farm machinery in Canada and the United States, Mr. Risdon said:—"Cultivators are cheaper in Michigan than they are in Canada. Last year a Detroit agent shipped into Canada a car load of corn cultivators and **sold them for $7 wholesale, while Canadian cultivators were selling at $8 wholesale.** They are manufactured over there at so much less cost that manufacturers can sometimes afford to pay the 35 per cent. duty and sell here. If our cost of production were not added to by tariff taxes on everything we put into the implements we could sell for less by the amount of the duty and make as much profit. We could keep the American cultivators out of this country if we were on the same basis of cost of manufacture. Cultivators, ploughs and such implements are either all iron or nearly all iron and steel, and the duty on the raw material increases their price considerably. That would be thrown off and the duty on soft coal as well by reciprocity, which would also give us the great market to the west. Their prices are lower generally over there than ours on the smaller farm implements, and our prices would fall correspondingly. But we should make as large profits with the tariff taxes off, and in the greater market we should find a better field. It would **make a difference to farmers on the goods we make of 20 to 25 per cent.,** and I am willing to drop my prices immediately as much as that if we are given free intercourse with the States."

HORSES.

Effect of the McKinley Tariff on the Export Trade.

There is no doubt whatever of the effect on the horse trade of Canada of the McKinley tariff. The duty bears with crushing severity upon the trade in good horses worth from $150 upwards. And that is the trade which is profitable, it is the trade that is the cream of horse-raising. Canada had two kinds of horse-exporting trades: That to the Western States and Pennsylvania, and the other to the manufacturing towns of the Eastern States. The first was the most profitable and took the best of the colts raised on the farms at liberal prices of from $150 to $250 per head. The New England trade, none the less useful, was in a different class of horses, cheap animals worth less than $100. The McKinley duty strikes both these trades with crippling effect. On the Western and Pennsylvania trade the duty levies **a tax of $30 per head.** The tax on the New England trade is almost prohibitive. This is what Mr. J. Rattenbury of Clinton, one of the most widely-known horse-dealers and best informed in Western Ontario and a Conservative in politics, says:—

MR. J. RATTENBURY.

"The new duty of $30 per head on horses worth less than $150 and 30 per cent. on all worth $150 or more, cuts all round. On a horse valued at $149 and on one worth only $90 the duty would alike be $30, whereas under the old 20 per cent. tariff on the $90 horse the duty would be but $18. On a horse worth $150 **the new duty will be $45** as compared with only $30 under the old. It is on the high-priced horses and the 'plugs' that the great difference between the old and new tariffs lies. On a $175 horse $52 50 is now taken; and on one worth $200, and there are many of that price, **the new duty is $60** against $40 before. And as I have already pointed out, this measures only a part of the effect of the tariff, for the practice of the dealers of getting mares over for breeding purposes was a source of considerable profit. Moreover, the new tariff makes the interference of the customs appraisers much more vexatious and expensive. Before if a horse were bought for $145 and it was declared by the customs to be worth $175, the difference in the duty would be $6. Such a proceeding under the present tariff would mean **a difference of duty of $22 50.** The vagaries of a customs officer cannot be accounted for or provided against, and so this is a new and important factor in the trade. I am a Conservative, but there is coming a change over this part of the country, and the people are turning toward reciprocity because they see that their interests demand it." With reference to horses, he said:—"There has been **a drop in prices of $25 a head at least,** and this during the past month or six weeks, since the McKinley Bill menaced the trade."

MR. JOHN McMAHON.

Mr. John McMahon of Seaforth, one of the largest shippers of horses in the west and a Conservative, made this statement in the latter part of last November:—"I used to ship on an average about two car loads of horses from this district every week during the late summer and fall. That would be about 26 head every week for 26 weeks say, or over 800 during the year. They were high-priced draught horses for Pennsylvania and heavy truck horses for Detroit. This year I have only shipped one carload. George Cox, the Detroit dealer, in other years would be up here half his time. He has not been here at all this year. The average price I have paid for horses is probably $150, so that the purchase of the 800 horses that in previous years my shipment embraced would amount to **a distribution of about $12,500 among the farmers; and this by only one of many buyers. Now there are no horses going away, and, of course, no money coming in.** Each year there has probably gone out of this section 1,300 horses which would average $150 or $160 each. Now those horses would not bring the farmer more than $125 or $130 each. **Or, instead of those 1,300 horses at the old prices putting into the pockets of the farmers say $195,000, at present prices they would only fetch $162,500, that is $32,500 less.** We used to send a good many horses to Montreal, and from there they would be sent across into the New England manufacturing towns for milk waggons, ice delivery waggons and such uses. They were cheap horses that would average $90. On them the duty used to be $18, and **the extra $12 put on by the McKinley Bill has stopped that trade completely.** Aubrey, the Montreal buyer, used to come up here regularly several times a year and take down shipments. He was here once this fall but only bought three or four head. Pat Dares of Boston was up here last week to buy, but only bought two head. The buyers can only pay so much if they are to make anything after the new duty is paid, and the farmers do not like to see their horses go at the reduced prices."

Mr. A. M. Polley of Goderich has carried on a horse-buying trade in the Huron district for 30 years. "The McKinley Bill," he said with emphasis, "**has knocked the horse trade higher than Gilderoy's kite.** The new duty has put a dead stop to the trade I have been doing, and I can do nothing until the farmers can be brought to see that they must sell for $20 or so less than in previous years. On the better class of horses the new duty makes a big difference. I have an order for some horses that will weigh 1,500 pounds and be worth about $200 apiece. Under the old United States tariff the duty on them would be $40 each. Under the McKinley Bill it will be $60 each. The difference in the tariffs amounts to **from $15 upwards on every horse.** I am going out some day soon to see if I can buy some horses, but I do not expect to do anything at the prices I shall be forced to offer. Last year I shipped out 300, all bought in this district. Some of them were as high as $200, and the average would be $100, so that the horse trade I did last year amounted to $30,000 to the farmers of this district. This year I have shipped only one car load, and that was before the McKinley Bill came into effect. There are a number of other buyers here, and they are in no better position than I am to do business this fall. **When the combined effect of the stoppage of the trade we have all been doing is calculated it will be seen that the result must be serious to the farmers.**"

These unpartisan statements, while directly referring to the western counties of the Province, are applicable with equal force to all parts of Ontario and the horse-raising counties of Quebec. And the dimensions to which the horse trade has grown make any interference with it of great importance to the whole Dominion. Since confederation there have been exported from Canada 330,000 horses, of which 320,000 were sent to the United State. To enter the United States market the enormous sum of $6,500,000 has been paid in duties. Had there been unrestricted reciprocity that amount would have added itself to the receipts of the farmers. **Reciprocity and a Reform Government will give to the farmers $30 a head and more for their horses.**

THE BOLT COMBINE.

How Prices Are Kept Up In The Canadian Market.

The defenders of restriction try to make the people of Canada believe that the tariff wall by which the Canadian market is handed over to combines does not result in the monopolists fleecing the consumer. Here is the testimony of a couple of witnesses with regard to the bolt combine and its exorbitant prices.

Mr. G. A. Neveux, hardware merchant, Windsor, says:—

"We can fetch light bolts from Detroit and pay the duty, but the tariff is so arranged that it knocks out any attempt to bring in heavy bolts. The duty is a cent and a half a pound on bolts less than ⅜-inch in diameter and 30 per cent. ad val.; on bolts larger than ⅜-inch in diameter it is one cent a pound and 25 per cent. The duty on the larger sizes amounts to 50 per cent., and **the Canadian combine keeps prices up to within a fraction of the amount of the protection.** Bolts can be bought in Detroit for 25 per cent. less than from the Canadian combine, and only that the duty on the heavier bolts is so large we would get all our supply there; we could do it and pay almost 25 per cent. duty."

Mr. William Risdon, proprietor of the Erie Iron Works, St. Thomas, says:—

"We buy all our bolts in Cleveland and save money by it. The duty is about 50 per cent., and we pay it and get in the Cleveland bolts below the Canadian price. The other day a Canadian agent called at my office to sell me bolts, and to test prices I gave him an order. I found it was cheaper to go to Cleveland. Besides being cheaper the Cleveland bolts are better. As my foreman put it to the agent, 'You can screw the nuts on the Cleveland bolts with your fingers, and it takes a couple of monkey-wrenches to put on the Canadian nuts.' The cost of that trial order to the Canadian house was **20 per cent. above what I had been paying in Cleveland** with a duty of one cent a pound on certain sizes and 33 per cent. ad val.; or about 50 per cent. added. This wide difference is in bolts. There is not so much in nuts; the combine is more pliable with nuts, yet the Canadian manufacturer has to pay high for bolts."

STOVES.

Manufacturers Could Reduce Prices and Compete in the United States.

The restrictionists try to scare the electors of Canada from an effort to open the great markets of the United States by gloomy pictures of the wreck that will come upon the manufacturing industries of Canada if the monopoly privileges of the National Policy be withdrawn. The manufacturers themselves have no such widespread fear. A very considerable number of them in many different lines of manufacture take an opposite view, deny that they cannot maintain themselves in a fair field, and, in fact, look to opening up profitable markets across the border under reciprocity.

Mr. Thomas Doherty of Sarnia, a well-known stove manufacturer, does not hesitate to declare his belief that reciprocity will improve the condition of the Canadian stove manufacturers. In December last he expressed these views:—

"Stovemakers have nothing to thank the N.P. for. It induced a large amount of capital to go into the business by its bright promises, and, having drawn in four times as much money as the trade will profitably maintain, **it increases the cost of production from 40 to 50 per cent.** We pay duty on our iron, coal and coke. Iron that Detroit stove men buy for $15 a ton we pay $15 plus $4 48, the duty. We melt 1,000 tons of pig in a year, so that the duty on our iron is about $4,480 annually. In a comparison of the condition of the United States' stove manufacturers with the Canadians, it can be shown that the Americans are much better off. Not only do they make their stoves untaxed on their iron and coal, but their market is in infinitely better shape. They get good prices and have a market more than twelve times as great as ours. They have a market into which I should like to obtain entrance and take my chances with them. Right across the river is the State of Michigan, with more people in it than there are in Ontario, people who are largely Canadians. I go over into Port Huron and I am constantly meeting people I knew in Canada, and they tell me there are localities in the State in which none but Canadians live. The farmers of Michigan and the miners and lumbermen are mostly Canadians or the descendants of Canadians—that is, of people who moved into the States from Canada. There is a market over there of 2,000,000 of people in a territory much less in extent than Ontario. Instead of going to Manitoba and the North-west, as I do at present with my stoves, I need under reciprocity only cross the river. I could well afford to let the Manitobans and the settlers of the North-west **buy their stoves cheaper** because of the saving in freight if they drew their supplies from the manufacturers of Minneapolis and Chicago. I do not believe the stove manufacturers of Canada are opposed to reciprocity. I do not think they see in the freest trade relations with the United States any menace to their manufactories. Many of them, I think, see in the United States a market in which they could do business."

COMBINES V. PEOPLE.

What We Pay to Combines Supported by Government.

Rice—75 per cent.

Molasses and Syrup—1c per lb. and 30 per cent. Actual duty, **75 to 100 per cent.**

Sugar—Price of white sugar in Liverpool, 2¼c per lb. **Duty** 1½c per lb. and 35 per cent. and 7½ per cent., in all **99½ per cent.**

$1 worth o' sugar will cost the workingman $1 99½.

AN ACTUAL EXAMPLE :

In June, 1890, 85 bags yellow sugar, costing 10s 6d per 112 lbs. in England, amounting to £91 3s 9d, or	$ 443 75
Duty on same—19,254 lbs. at	
1½c per lb	$ 238 95
35 per cent. on cost ....($443 75)	155 40
7½ per cent. on duty....($443 75)	33 32
Total duty	$ 477 68

Over 105 per cent.

This kind of sugar is used by workingmen and farmers, and is what the present Government try to make you believe is a luxury.

Blankets—10 cents per lb. and 20 per cent. or **60 to 80 per cent.**

Wall Paper—100 to 160 per cent.

These are a few of the reasons why times are dull, and the actual necessities of life cost twice their value.

FOR WORKINGMEN.

Taxed From Head to Foot For the Combines.

Workingmen should note the duties they are forced to pay on everything they wear for the benefit of the combines:—

	Per Cent.
Workingmen's Astrachan and Plush Caps	75 to 80
Linen Collars	65
Cotton Shirts	55
Wincey Shirts	55
Flannel Shirts	55
Men's Tweed Clothing	40 to 50
Waterproof and Oil Cloth Coats	55
Cardigan Jackets	35 to 40
Pants	40 to 50
Socks	57½

These are reasons why their votes mean their bread and butter.

THE PRICE OF PEAS.

A Higher Price Could Be Got Under Reciprocity

Mr. O. L. Daily of the Cleveland Seed Co. has written the following letter to Mr C. H. Widdifield of Picton:—

OFFICE OF THE CLEVELAND SEED COMPANY,
Picton, Ont., 13th Feb., 1891.

C. H. Widdifield, Esq., Picton:

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your inquiry as to the effect of the tariff on peas grown for us, I would say that last year the farmers of Prince Edward County grew for us about 100,000 bushels of peas. A large portion of these were New York Kents, for which we paid the farmers $1 per bushel for growing before the McKinley tariff came into force. The McKinley tariff has compelled us **to reduce the price of the Kents to 90 cents per bushel,** and other varieties in proportion. **If we had unrestricted reciprocity we could pay $1 10 for growing the Kent varieties.**

The tariff has also had the effect of compelling us to limit the supply of many varieties of peas that have heretofore been grown with profit by the Prince Edward farmers.

Yours truly,
(Signed) O. L. DAILY,
Agent.

ENGLISH OPINION.

Some Sentiments that Shame Our Spurious Loyalists.

Commercial union means free trade between America and the Dominion and a protective tariff against the mother country. **If Canada desired that, Canada can have it.**—Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain.

I must distinctly **affirm the right of the Canadian Legislature to adjust the taxation of the people in the way they deem best,** even if it should unfortunately happen to meet the disapproval of the Imperial Ministry. **Her Majesty cannot be advised to disallow such acts** unless her advisers are prepared to assume the administration of the affairs of the colony irrespective of the views of the inhabitants.—Sir Alexander Galt, formerly Canadian High Commissioner, and at one time Finance Minister under Sir John Macdonald.

It is at this very moment a matter of discussion in Canada whether a treaty of reciprocity should not be concluded with the United States, and the result of the deliberation may very possibly be **an admission of the manufactures of New England into the Dominion under lighter duties than the manufactures of Great Britain.** If the Canadian Ministry come to the conclusion that such an arrangement is for the benefit of that country will the Colonial Office advise the Crown to disallow the negotiations? **Assuredly not.**—London Times.

IRON AND COAL.

How Development is Retarded by the Heavy Duties.

Mr. David Cowan is the head of the London Foundry Company. He was a protectionist when the National Policy was introduced, but now he favors unrestricted reciprocity. He shows how the duty on iron and coal is a tax on every article into the manufacture of which these articles go.

"We want the resources of this country developed," Mr. Cowan said, "and we cannot have them developed until there is a market to which to take them. The people of Canada have been paying high duties on iron, coal and other things for twelve years that their mines might be developed. They have been paying for a development and it has not taken place. We have been paying our money and have not received the return we were promised. Why have we not? Because there are not people enough here to require it, and our products under the present relations of this country with the United States are shut out of the market over there. We have been paying $4 48 a ton on pig iron and $13 a ton on bar iron, and where has any advantage arisen? Are we any further advanced than we were twelve years ago in iron mining? Very little. The duty on bar iron only benefits one firm in Ontario, viz., the owners of the Hamilton and Humber rolling mills. The duty on pig iron has given birth to an industry in Quebec, and some pig is being made in Nova Scotia, but the great iron resources of this country lie idle. And these are the results of taxes that handicap every iron manufacturer and increase the cost of that which he makes. The cost of iron enters into nearly everything that is manufactured. And not by the amount only of the duty that each manufacturer has to pay for his raw materials is the price at which he sells his goods increased. He asks a profit on his whole outlay on his goods, and **the party to whom he sells must not only pay the amount of the duty which the manufacturer has paid on his raw materials, but a profit on that duty as well.** So also when the retailer sells to the consumer, the latter must pay another profit on the duty and profit on the duty put on by the manufacturer; and this system of multiplication is the result of duties on raw materials imposed for the benefit of a few concerns who cannot with our limited market accomplish that development of Canadian resources for which they have been given these tariff privileges. Speaking of the cost of iron, bar iron can be bought for $1 75 a hundred in the United States and the price here is $2 20. The duty is 65 cents a hundred pounds. All the bar iron made in Canada is made of scrap, mostly supplied by Canada, but what is imported by the Canadian mills pays a duty of $2 a ton. And as iron enters into the manufacture of so many things, such as nuts and bolts, screws, etc., which are raw materials to most manufacturers, and which are kept up to high prices by the tariff, the cheapening of manufacture cannot be measured by the saving on bar iron alone or on pig iron."

"Why should I be singled out for public censure when there are dozens of members in the same House who not only have applied for and obtained limits for themselves, but sit there daily voting moneys into their pockets?"—J. C. Rykert.