

SIFTON ON RECIPROCITY

INTERVIEW WITH MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR.

West Not Anxious to Have American Duty Taken Off Wheat.

The Toronto News published a remarkable interview with Hon. Mr. Sifton, Minister of the Interior, obtained by Mr. E. W. Thomson, formerly one of the editors of the Toronto Globe and afterward one of the editors of the Youth's Companion, of Boston, who has recently been in Canada writing a series of articles for a Boston paper on Canadian affairs. As Mr. Thomson is well known as a very reliable writer and his articles have all been exceedingly favorable to the Laurier Government, this interview must be regarded as authentic. It is exceedingly important as showing the attitude of the Minister of the Interior on the questions of Reciprocity and Protection.

After an introductory paragraph highly praising Mr. Sifton, Mr. Thomson proceeds to give Mr. Sifton's views on Reciprocity as follows:

Sir Wilfred Laurier, as I disclosed recently in a published letter, would probably favor a conference with Washington on reciprocity, if Washington made advances in conformity with Laurier's proviso that there is no use talking about the thing unless reason can be shown for an opinion that the United States, particularly their Senate, will agree to confine reciprocity to natural products and materials more or less raw for manufacture. Fie'ding is very much of the same opinion, as I happen to know by having had a talk with him some little time ago on the matter. Now for Sifton:

"I have no objection to your using my name," he said. "Quite willing to be interviewed. You suppose our West to be a unit in favor of reciprocity in naturals. It is not so. Certainly, I used to favor such reciprocity. But I am not like some people we both know—I can learn. I do not say that the Canadian West, and myself, might not approve free, or much more free exchange of natural products with the States. It depends on what arrangements could be made for permanency of the arrangement. We could not afford to risk much on a market that might be hastily closed to us.

NO SHORT TERM TREATY.
"Canadians have not forgotten the lesson of 1866, when Washington abrogated the reciprocity treaty of 1854. This country had got into the way of adapting its production, and very largely its entire business, to the American market. Canada was flattened out for years by the abrogation of the treaty. No more of that for me. We have adapted our production and business to the independent, self-sufficient policy that has been pursued for many years now. Does anybody of good sense imagine we will give that up, and undertake a re-adaptation to the United States market on a bargain extending over any short term, or which could be done away with by a few years' notice from Washington? No.

"Could the necessary permanency be secured? I have not given so much thought to that as would warrant me in replying yea or nay. What use in studying a question that is unlikely to come up soon. Washington has not shown any distinct intention of proposing a conference on the only

sort of reciprocity that Canada could judiciously discuss. I am not one of the infallible people who know everything by instinct. Time enough to talk about how to secure permanency of reciprocity in 'naturals' when Washington and Ottawa shall have discussed things, and got to an agreement that they would both like to make permanent.

WEST AND FREE WHEAT.

"As to wheat. I am far from sure that the West cares to have the American duty taken off wheat. You stare. But consider that our interest is to have the first-class wheat of our West milled in Winnipeg or Rat Portage, instead of Minneapolis. We want to export it as flour, as much as possible. That will give us two profits. It is true that in present circumstances, with Winnipeg not fully developed as a flouring point, Minneapolis can offer a trifle more for our wheat during a few weeks after harvest than Winnipeg can. But it is just as cheap to haul flour to the sea from Winnipeg or the Lake of the Woods as from Minneapolis. It will be cheaper all the year round pretty soon I mean as soon as we get our waterways improved to the utmost and our almost dead level first-class national transcontinental railway built. That completion is only a few years ahead. So we do not need, and do not much wish to have our wheat growers feeling dependent on Minneapolis prices. At any rate the price paid for wheat is really made in Liverpool, just as the Minneapolis operators told you last fall on the floor of their wheat exchange. I am not saying that there would be no early profit to our wheat growers if the United States duty of 25 cents a bushel on wheat were removed. But it is not the height of wisdom to want the American duty taken off when one of its effects is to promote flour milling in Canada, and hamper it in the States. Of course, Minneapolis might be enabled to grind our wheat in bond, the United States duty remaining, but grinding in bond is a bit bothersome and slightly expensive. No, I see little reason to suppose we would wish, in any case, to put an export duty on wheat for the purpose of preventing Minneapolis from grinding it. The millers there have got to have it—that's the nub of the situation, and Washington will have to take off the duty sooner or later, or let Minneapolis lose its flour trade. Why should Canada care to give much in the way of reciprocity to have the duty taken off presently?

U. S. TRUSTS POWERLESS.

"No, I do not take much stock in the notion that the American milling interest could dominate the wheat growing interest in our West under complete reciprocity. Trusts cannot work in Canada to the detriment of farmers and consumers. Our political system is such that we can knock out any trust in short order as soon as the people want it done. Here Parliament has unlimited powers to regulate such concerns. You saw what we did with the American Tobacco Company last session? Compelled them to give up their monopoly system by arranging to take away their license to manufacture if they should prove delinquent. Well, an omnipotent Parliament can get at any trade combination in any way it chooses. We are not made impotent to defend the people against monopolies by such a complication of written constitutions and intricate legalities as favors monopolies in the States.

"Yes, there might be some slight temporary gain to our West if there were complete reciprocity in natural products other than wheat. But that gain is scarcely worth bothering about, much less binding ourselves for, and especially it is not worth the adapting of our business to a treaty that might be abrogated at short notice.

TARIFF ON IMPLEMENTS.

"As to the advantage our West would gain by taking the duties off American agricultural machinery, and other United States manufactures, I tell you that the people of our West are willing to stand the present Canadian tariff. The elections surely showed that. They are not kicking. This Government has got the people of Canada everywhere to recognize that the country can't be developed without a tariff, and the West is aware of getting a fair share of the expenditure that Customs taxation enables us to make.

"Reciprocity is not precisely in the line of our transportation development. The preference to Great Britain is. We have pretty well overcome the difficulties of geography. By the canals and waterways and railways that we have constructed and developed our commerce flows along lines of latitude; not northward and southward. We are fixed now to deal with Europe, and especially with Great Britain. There is an unlimited market there for pretty much everything we raise.

WILL ADHERE TO PREFERENCE.

"It is far from sure that reciprocity with the States would consist with the preference to Great Britain. We are not likely to stop that. It pays us well. If England should reciprocate it would pay us still better. I am not predicting she will. We can get along finely anyway. But, mind this our interest is to favor the country that is naturally and politically inclined to promote our interests to send us immigrants, to lend us money on easy terms, to watch our successes with rejoicing. Best to child is mother. For all that, I am not saying that it would suit

Canada to enter into any rigid trade agreement even with Great Britain. If she chooses to give us a preference, well and good. If not, all right. To get one we might possibly bind ourselves to something, but I am not sure we would. No use balking before one sees the cart. That is as good regarding the reciprocity as regarding the Imperial preference business.

CANADA IN GOOD SHAPE.

"Fact is, the only right way to size up the mind of Canada is to consider that we are getting along prosperously, that we are seeking no favors from any quarter, that we do not seem to need any, that our inclination is all to hoe our own row, or paddle our own canoe, that we are a business Government for a business people, which implies that we are not going to throw any good thing away if it be tendered on conditions that we can honorably and profitably accept.

"I don't think I need say any more just now. You are off. Well, don't forget to repeat permanency, permanency, permanency. Or the difficulty of securing it. That is the consideration which seems to me most obstructive of reciprocity with neighbors who are as keen as we are getting to believe we are ourselves.

ACHING KIDNEYS.

Can Only be Cured by Enriching the Blood by the Use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

The kidneys filter every drop of your blood. The purity of the blood depend upon the kidneys—and the health of the kidneys depends upon the blood. If your blood is weak the kidneys have not strength for their work and leave the blood unfiltered and foul. If your blood is bad the kidneys get clogged with painful, poisonous impurities. That is what causes your back ache with the dull pains or sharp stabs of sick kidneys. And kidney disease is one of the most deadly and hopeless things that can attack you. The only hope is to strike without delay at the root of the trouble in the blood with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. They actually make new blood. They flush the kidneys clean, heal their inflammation and give them strength for their work. Common kidney pills only touch the symptoms—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cure the cause. That is why they cure for good and at the same time improve the health in every way.

Mr. Geo. Johnson, of the village of Ohio, N. S., gives strong proof of the truth of the above statements. He says: "My son, now nineteen years old, suffered greatly with kidney trouble. He was constantly troubled with severe pains in the back, and often passed sleepless nights. His appetite failed, he grew weak, and could hardly do the usual work that falls to the lot of a boy on a farm. We tried several kidney medicines, but they could not help him any. Then a friend recommended Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and this was the first medicine that reached the cause of the trouble. He used the pills for a couple of months and I am thankful to say is now as strong and healthy as any boy of his age."

There is no disease due to bad blood that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills will not cure, simply because they make new, rich red blood that expels disease from every part of the body. That is why they cure the worst cases of anaemia, indigestion, neuralgia, rheumatism, headache, and backaches, and the special ailments from which women alone suffer. But only the genuine pills can do this and you should see that the full name, "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People," is printed on the wrapper around each box. Sold by all medicine dealers or direct by mail from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50.

OLD-TIME CUSTOMS.

The German children probably believe more firmly in Kriss Kringle, or Santa Claus, than do the children of any other nation. Germany is the birthplace of Kriss Kringle, and the wonderland of fable and poetry. German children are taught to love the Christ Child. In many parts of the country it is the custom on the morning before Christmas to let a figure representing the Christ-Child move past the window of the room where the little ones sleep. Half awake only, in the grey of the morning they see this little child-figure flit dimly past, and they go to sleep again in the blissful consciousness that the Christ-Child has not forgotten them, and that they will have an abundance of presents around the tree in the evening.

A beautiful custom in Norway and Sweden is the Christmas feeding of birds. Bunches of oats are placed on the roofs of house, on fences and trees. Cartloads of sheaves are brought into towns for this purpose, and both rich and poor buy and place them everywhere. The sentiment is that a man must be very poor indeed if he cannot spare a farthing to feed the little birds on Christmas Day. In many of the valleys watch is kept during the whole of the night, and all are merry; candles are kept burning at the windows and the people flock to church at four o'clock in the morning, each carrying a torch.

In some districts, immediately after the service, everyone hurries from church, either on foot or in sleighs, for there is an old saying that he

More Delicious

in flavor than the finest Japan tea grown.

"SALADA"

CEYLON NATURAL GREEN tea is fast becoming as popular as

"SALADA" Black tea. Sold only in lead packets. 25c and 40c. per lb. By all grocers.

who gets home first will have his crop first harvested. At this holiday season the peasant girls throw straw at the timbered roof of the hall, and for every one that sticks in a crack a lover will come courting during the year.

In 1652, the question of Christmas was brought up in parliament. They decided it was not in harmony with the Scriptures; pronounced it "anti-Christian" and abolished it. So the jolly Lord of Misrule became an outlaw, and the old picturesque Christians faded away in the severity of the Puritan atmosphere, but with the nineteenth century came a revival. The new Christmas was merry, but quieter. What it lost in noise and frolic it made up in cheerfulness and good-will."

MIDN'T CARE TO GO.

A witty and popular London clergyman has had an unpleasant experience. One Sunday recently he was going up the steps of his church, when he was asked by an old lady (who, of course, did not know him) to help her up the steps. With his usual good grace he complied with her request.

On reaching the top she asked him who was to preach.

"The Rev. Mr. Kelf," replied he (that being his own name).

"(h, lor!" exclaimed the old lady, "help me down again. I'd rather listen to a man sharpening a saw. Please help me down again; I don't care to go in."

At first he was inclined to refuse, but then he gently helped her down again, remarking as he reached the bottom, "I would not go in either if I was not paid for it."

WHAT PASSED BETWEEN THEM.

King's Counsel—"I insist on an answer to my question. You have not told me all the conversation. I want to know everything that passed between you and Mr. Keenun."

Reluctant Witness—"I've told you everything of any consequence."

K. C. (savagely)—"It's no use denying it. You can tell us more, but are keeping it back. Now, let his lordship know what Mr. Keenun said."

R. W. (smiling)—"Well, sir, if you must have it, Mr. Keenun said, 'There isn't aught in this dispute as I'm 'shamed of, an' if any stumpy little, h-e-havin', four-by-six, gimlet-eyed, pin-back'd, skally-wigged lawyer, with a ounce of brains an' three yards of jaw, wants to know what I said to ye, jist tell him to ask his grandmother.'"

The K. C. gasped, then sat down.

"This custom of having two telephones in the office has its disadvantages, too," said the business man.

"We've got a new office-boy, and one of his duties is to answer the telephone. The other day he heard the bell ring, and, coming to me, said: 'You're wanted at the 'phone by a lady.' 'Which one?' I inquired, thinking of the 'h-m-s, of course. 'Please, sir,' stammered the boy. 'I—I—I think it's your wife.'"

AS GOOD AS HER WORD.

Old Mr. Makepeace was in a reminiscent mood. "Did I ever tell ye what mother said to me when I got up spunk enough to ask her—in words—if she'd have me?" he began, to the delight of his grandson, Fred.

"No, but something bright, I'll warrant," chuckled Fred, with a glance at the old lady, who calmly regarded them from her rocking-chair by the fireplace.

"I can't recall the preliminary remarks," Mr. Makepeace continued; "and anyway, I think they were a trifle mixed. But finally, after I'd said something about my prospects, to make it businesslike, I began to think it strange she didn't say anything, and I was afraid I was getting it all wrong.

"I'll make ye a good husband, Betty," I said, hoping that was the right thing.

"If I should marry you, John," she said, and it was the first time she had opened her lips, 'I will attend to making a good husband of you'

"And she has!" laughed old Mr. Makepeace, the corner of his eye on his wife.

SLEEPLESS BABIES.

Well babies sleep soundly and wake up brightly. When babies are restless and sleepless it is the surest possible sign of illness—in all probability due to some derangement of the stomach and bowels, or teething troubles. Baby's Own Tablets are the only proper remedy. They remove the trouble and in this way give the little one sound, refreshing sleep, and it wakes up healthy and happy. Guaranteed to contain no harmful drug or opiate. Mrs. Thos. Cain, Loring, Ont., says: "My baby suffered from stomach trouble and teething, and was quite cross. I got Baby's Own Tablets and they seemed to work almost like a charm. I think nothing can equal the Tablets for children's ailments." You can find them at drug stores or get them post paid at 25 cents a box by writing The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

CURIOUS RELIGIOUS SECT.

There is at least one religious sect which is composed entirely of women. It was started two or three years ago by an elderly woman of So nova, in the Russian province of Samara, near the River Volga. She calls herself, and is called by her followers, "The Blessed Mother." She has a bodyguard of women known as the "Ten Wise Virgins," and these as well as herself are credited with remarkable powers. All her followers are women, and they live like troglodytes in holes in a cliff. They take it in turns to go to the villages for supplies, lead a life of fasting and prayer, hold their ritual at night, and believe that the world will, in a short time, perish in one grand conflagration.

Many a girl catches a husband by baiting her hook with indifference.

Kidney Cells Destroyed

By Repeated Attacks of Disease—Surprising Results Obtained by the Use of DR. CHASE'S KIDNEY-LIVER PILLS.

Because it is sometimes a slow and lingering malady, people are prone to overlook the destructive tendencies of kidney disease.

They forget that the wasting process brings about a change in the cellular tissue, which practically renders the kidneys useless as filtering organs.

Continued paleness and loss of flesh, pains in the back and loins, dry, harsh skin, severe headaches and backaches; scanty, highly colored urine; painful, scalding urination; stomach troubles and irregular bowels are among the symptoms of kidney disease.

As a cause of downright suffering few diseases are to be compared with kidney disease, and the results are frequently fatal, the end coming suddenly and unexpectedly.

By their direct and wonderfully prompt action on the kidneys, Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills call a quick halt to the advance of kidney disease.

By their combined action on kidneys, liver and bowels, they prove effective in complicated cases in which

ordinary kidney medicines bring little or no relief.

Mr. W. Smith, Port Dalhousie, Ont., writes:—"For some years I was afflicted with kidney disease and gravel in its most severe form, having often a stoppage of water accompanied by the most dreadful agony. As the disease wore on me I became reduced in flesh and passed sleepless nights. No doctor was able to do much for me and I used many medicines without obtaining more than temporary relief. My attention was directed to Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, and by using this treatment the disease was eradicated from my system in less than six months. I have gained in weight, sleep well and feel better than I have for twenty years. These pills have fully restored me to good and perfect health."

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills have thoroughly proven their genuine indisputable merit, and you can use them knowing of a certainty that you will receive all the benefit that would be derived from the attention of the most skillful physician. One pill a dose, 25 cents a box, at all dealers, or Edmanston, Bates & Co., Toronto.

How to Gain Flesh

Persons have been known to gain a pound a day by taking an ounce of Scott's Emulsion. It is strange, but it often happens.

Somehow the ounce produces the pound; it seems to start the digestive machinery going properly, so that the patient is able to digest and absorb his ordinary food, which he could not do before, and that is the way the gain is made.

A certain amount of flesh is necessary for health; if you have not got it you can get it by taking Scott's Emulsion.

If you have not tried it, send for free sample. Its agreeable taste will surprise you. SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, Toronto, Ont.