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W. H. BEAN

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A TENDERFOOT'S WOOING

—BY— CLIVE PHILLIPPS WOLLEY (AUTHOR OF "GOLD, GOLD IN CARIBOO," ETC.)

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CHAPTER XX. The Chinook wind which had been blowing before midnight had dropped, and in the last hours of darkness had been succeeded by a crisp clear air with more than a suspicion of frost in it, so that when the dawn came, it spread through skies of such rare lucidity as are never seen except in high northern lands.

Along the horizon the light grew gradually, until in the east the heavens were of a pale lemon color, so clear, so utterly fine and transparent, that the gloom of the rigid barrier of pines hurt the eye with its contrast of stiff solidity.

Even the pine belt itself was not quite proof against the dawn. The tops of it were touched with a pale glory and, though the gloom of the black boughs swallowed up the light that struck them, a bole here and there was caught by it and brightened with a wash of tenderest golden grey.

But the prairie welcomed the dawn, which flooded its frost-touched sage brush, so that it rolled in sheets of sparkling silver, from the pines to the cherry patch and away beyond as far as the eye could see towards the still shadowy bed of the Fraser.

The dawn had made all things plain, had emphasized every outline: the peace of it called attention to every least sound which might break the holy stillness of the waking day, and yet Rolt, listening in his burrow, could not hear so much as the breaking of a twig, or see a sign of life in the direction from which he had fled.

Most of the events to which we look forward in life (and probably in death), either with desire or dread, are curiously unlike our forecasts of them. A battle upon either a large or small scale is no exception to this rule. Men laugh in the crisis of a life and death struggle, and in the last South African war a volunteer, told off as one of the escort of a big gun, remembers only of Spion Kop that it was fought on a "jolly" day, that the weather and the smooth grass slopes suggested pink parasols and picnic hampers; that there were funny little balloon-like puffs rising at intervals from the ridge opposite to that on which he lay; that the sun was warm and comforting, and that some confounded fellow woke him up with the toe of a service boot when the battle was over and it was time to take the gun home.

It was with Rolt as it was with that yeoman. After Al's departure he worked feverishly at the making of his burrow, expecting every moment to hear the hum of bullets through the scrub over head, but no bullets came, and at last, even with his jack knife, he had managed to scrape out a hollow ample enough to contain his body.

Then he lay in it and watched, until the minutes grew into an hour, and the dawn into young day, without any sign of life showing itself upon the landscape, except a coyote, shadowy and utterly noiseless, who came stealing down from the hills, until he was nearly midway between the pines and the cherry patch.

There he checked sharply, his nose went up and his brush dropped, and wheeling in his tracks, he went back at a lunge to the nearest rising ground, on which he stood awhile reconnoitering.

Something in the country displeased him, for after a prolonged survey he looked back the way he had come. The coyote's behavior was suggestive of suspicion, but a little broad-winged hawk which poised in the clear air or swung noiselessly overhead with a keen eye for mice or beetles, contradicted the habitually suspicious vagabond.

Rolt found it impossible to remain strung up to concert pitch for ever in such an atmosphere of peaceful beauty, just as the half alarmed buck does, when pitted against the everlasting patience of his hunter, and he was actually dozing when a voice behind him asked: "Have you got your Holland along with you to-day, Boss?"

Rolt started, but though only half awake, had sense enough to lie still. "Yes," he said, without turning. "It's good for long shooting, ain't it?"

"It's sighted for five hundred yards." "I guess that's good enough. Do you see that yallerish looking bunch of sage brush, the biggest in sight, away there to the right? Jest perforate it, will you?"

Rolt raised his rifle, and looked questioning at old Al, whose head was now alongside his own. The old man nodded, and Rolt, adjusting his sights to the five hundred yards range, cuddled down on his rifle.

"High or low?" he asked. "I guess it's most solid near the bottom," chuckled Al. Then Rolt drew a long breath, for a moment there was absolute silence, and then a little puff of dust, fifty yards beyond the sage brush, recorded the fact that the foresight had been taken to full. A few sprigs of the yellow weed fell, but otherwise there was no sign from the bush.

"Sits stiller nor a fool hen," commented Al. "Try her lower still, Boss." Rolt took the same bead again, but this time he took it upon the very base of his target. At his second shot the bush which he had watched for an hour became alive. A horrid scream followed the impact of his bullet and in place of the little fountain of golden dust, a man's body sprang high into the air and then pitched headlong on the near side of the bush writhing and trying itself into knots amongst the branches of the withered sage brush.

"Must be quite a holler there," almost as good as this one of ourn. I seed him coming from the time he started. Holy smoke!" Al's ejaculation was the result of a perfect blizzard of bullets which suddenly burst upon the cherry patch, cutting the feeble brush into ribbons and tatters and making the deft crouch in their lairs like frightened rabbits.

"Fire a good many shots for fifteen injuns," growled Al. "Liker fifty. It's the hull Chilcoteen tribe, b a k em," and then rising recklessly to his knees, he roared, "Turn it loose, boys. Don't let the beggars get away," and he emptied the magazine of his repeater with a rapidity which would have done credit to a machine gun.

Five minutes earlier the Boss had tired of watching the motionless sage brush over which the hawk had swung and from which that coyote had retreated so promptly, and now whilst the rifles rattled and the smell of powder tainted the air, there were a dozen wild figures dashing from it for the pine belt.

Only two of them fell, and one of these got to his feet again and was hauled into cover by his fellows. "Blanked had shootin'," say, Boss, that shot of yours turned on the hull bloomin' orchestra. How many did you git?" "I'm afraid I did not touch one of them."

"Guess you're better at sitters. Didn't you spot any of 'em before I told you to shoot at that brush? Lord! I've been watching that fellow over there for nigh on to an hour. It's lucky as I didn't wait for him to come in range of my old shootin' iron."

HELPS THE FARMER DOES THE TARIFF

The Duty on Flax Nearly Wiped Out Imports But Multiplied the Exports

A prominent manufacturer of Montreal, speaking in Winnipeg in September, 1906, said: "Our faxseed is shut out of the American market on account of a duty of 25 cents per bushel. Why do not our Canadian farmers ask our Government to place a duty on flax grown in Canada to give them the home market which they are justly entitled to? There is from a million and a half to two million bushels of flaxseed consumed in Canada annually by our Canadian linseed oil crushers, and why should a million bushels or more of foreign seed be used instead of buying 'Grown in Canada' flaxseed, and grown right here in the West, the best that can be produced?"

"I wish to point out to the intelligent farmers of the West that the American farmers find flax more profitable to grow than wheat, and I hope that, were revision of the tariff takes place, there will be a duty placed on flaxseed for the benefit of the farmer and that all flaxseed used in Canada will be 'Grown in Canada.'"

Up to 1907 flaxseed entered Canada free of duty and the figures, imports and exports, for the two years immediately preceding show that we were an importing country:—

Table with 4 columns: Fiscal Year, Imp'ts. Bush., Exp'ts. Bush., (Can.) Value. 1905: 176,887, 214, \$479. 1906: 711,138, 2,824, \$3,328.

At the close of 1907 flaxseed was protected by a duty of 10 cents a bushel, and during the following three years, as will be observed from the figures, our imports dwindled down to practically nothing, while our exports jumped from nothing up into the millions:—

Table with 4 columns: Fiscal Year, Imp'ts. Bush., Exp'ts. Bush., (Can.) Value. 1908: 495,154, 10,987, \$150,098. 1909: 238,438, 693,779, \$855,908. 1910: 4,344, 1,997,648, \$3,642,476.

And yet it is still alleged on behalf of the farmers that a tariff on their products can be of little value to them.

A FRIEND OF LABOR

The Tariff is a Practical Friend of the Working Man

As the result of some investigations conducted by The Monetary Times (Toronto), it is known that at the present time at least 200 United States manufacturing companies are operating branch factories in Canada, representing an aggregate investment of \$226,000,000. For this influx of capital, with all the benefits accruing to the Dominion therefrom, we must thank a tariff which made it worth while for those who hoped to sell us goods to come to this side of the line to manufacture. Had that tariff not been a protective one, those United States manufacturers would probably have enlarged their home factories to take care of Canadian business instead of building on this side, in which case we would now be using goods made from United States material with United States labor, instead of goods made from Canadian material with Canadian labor.

That our neighbors look upon this movement as a distinct loss to be remedied by Reciprocity with Canada is shown in the following extract from a speech recently delivered by Senator Beveridge, of Indiana:—

"There must be reciprocity with Canada. Our tariff with the rest of the world does not apply to our northern neighbor. That policy already has driven American manufacturers across the Canadian border, built vast plants with American capital on Canadian soil, employing Canadian workmen to supply trade. That capital should be kept at home to employ American workmen to supply Canadian demand. We should admit Canadian wood pulp and Canadian paper free in return for Canada's admitting our agricultural implements, our engines, pumps, and other machinery free. We should freely admit Canadian lumber to American planing mills in return for Canada's freely admitting other American manufactured products to Canadian markets."

In this connection it is worthy of mention that certain wealthy United States concerns that recently acquired sites in Canada with a view to the immediate erection of extensive shops have suspended operations pending the outcome of the present negotiations, presumably in hopes that our tariff on the goods they manufacture will be so reduced as to make such a move on their part unnecessary.

FARM WAGES

Higher in Canada than in Other Agricultural Countries

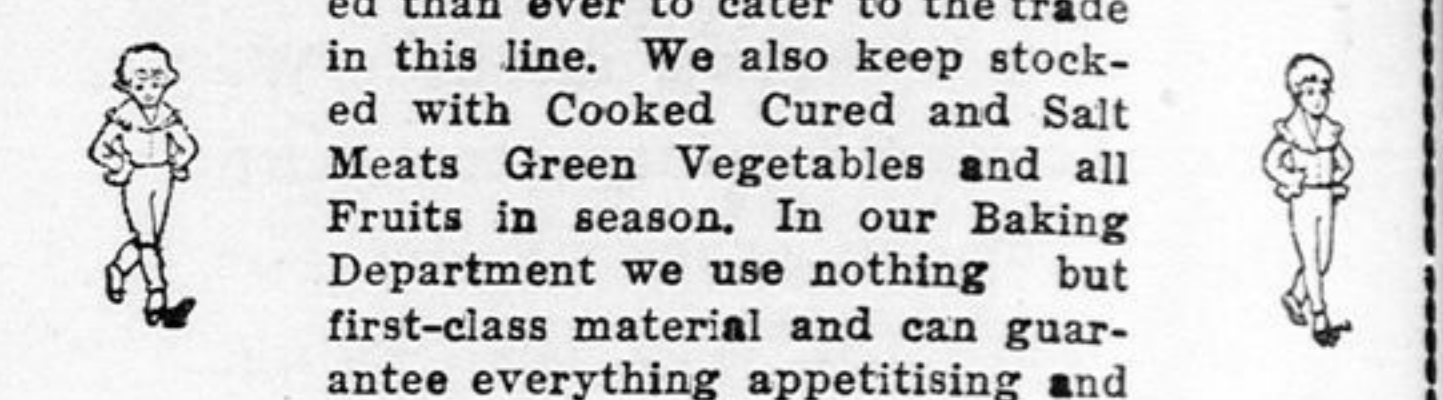
The average wages paid on the farms of the following countries over periods as nearly co-incident as possible are as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Country, Wages. Canada: \$24.60 a week. United States: 24.00 " Argentina: 15.40 " Russia: 12.83 " Hungary: 12.82 " Roumania: 12.32 " Bulgaria: 12.32 " Sweden: 12.32 " Denmark: 19.04 "

All these figures are naturally approximate, but for the purposes of comparison are accurate as necessary. Wages vary from month to month. In harvesting time they are higher than in springtime and in springtime they are much higher than in winter. More farmers include board in the contract. But generally speaking the above table indicates the difference between the cost of labor to the Canadian farmer and what a costs his competitors in the other great agricultural countries of the world.

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RIVERDALE.

Well, Mr. Editor, news is rather scarce around these parts just now. Threshing is about wound up in these parts; grain turned out pretty well, though the red rust cut down the yield of oats considerably. The Yankee peas did not do so well as was expected at one time, one farmer having two bags off of six bushels sown.

Mr. Moore McFadden, of Pickering spent over the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McFadden. Mr. Lynn Grant, of town spent Sunday with Mr. Alex. Aljoe. Master Willie Weir is visiting with his uncle at Greenock.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Atkinson spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. B. Coutts at Vickers. Mr. James Farquharson of town spent Sunday at Mr. and Mrs. T. McGirr's. Mr. Herb Atkinson spent Sunday with his sister, at Vickers. Miss Annie McGirr left last Thursday for her school near Erin. Miss Annie Lawrence leaves this week for her school at Swinton Park. Miss Agnes McGirr leaves this week for her school near Shelburne. Mr. A. Williams of Hamilton, is visiting her sister, Mrs. John Collier.

Canada's Double Track Line TORONTO \$3.00 RETURN Aug. 26th to Sept. 9th \$2.25 RETURN Aug. 29th and 31st Sept. 5th and 7th From DURHAM ACCOUNT CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION Return Limit Sept. 12th, 1911. THROUGH TOURIST PULLMAN SLEEPERS TO WINNIPEG AND EDMONTON via Chicago and St. Paul SEPT. 5th and 19th in connection with HOMESEEKERS' EXCURSIONS.

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