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THE WHIG, SEVENTY-EIGHTH YEAR

DAILY BRITISH WHIG, published at 306-310 King Street, Kingston, Ontario, at \$6 per year. Editions at 2.30 and 4 o'clock p.m. WEEKLY BRITISH WHIG, 16 pages, published in parts on Monday and Thursday morning at \$1 a year. To United States, charge for postage had to be added, making price of Daily \$5 and Weekly \$1.50 per year.

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WILL NEVER GET WISE.

It reads strangely that in the city of Montreal there is resistance to the regulation which requires vaccination as a guard against small-pox. One recalls the heroism of the late Mayor Beaufrand, who led in the demonstration of civic power when disease was attacking his people and he realized that only a firm hand and a steady purpose could save them from its ravages. Heroism, did one say? Yes, and of the most pronounced type.

Mayor Beaufrand was the choice, the elect, of the French-Canadians. He was a man who appreciated the favour and regard of the people, but he was also a man who realized the responsibilities of a public office. The situation suggested prompt and effective action—at any cost. Vaccination, in his judgment, meant the salvation of the people, and vaccination he insisted upon. It was the act of a great man, a man of principle, and a man of courage.

Vaccination is being resisted to-day as it was many years ago, but under different circumstances. The danger now is not so great. The public intelligence is greater, and it is quick to perceive that as human life may be protected against small-pox in the same way it can be protected from typhoid fever.

This is due to a French physician, but the French government did not adopt it for its own soldiers until after the method had received thorough and successful trial in the armies of the United States and Great Britain. In the United States army there are only one-sixth as many cases of typhoid as before the method was adopted. Its worth was convincingly shown during the recent massing of the troops on the Mexican border. It takes time to educate the masses as to the value of some things, especially some discoveries in science and medicine, and there are some who will never accept them. And one of them is vaccination.

SIR JOHN ON RECIPROCITY.

"It has been said by the opposition press that we have been rather changing our views. As Sir Charles Tupper has explained, we have been consistent with regard to all questions relating to the fiscal policy and the development of trade and the industries of Canada. We have never varied. Our policy is quite consistent with the desire to extend our trade to all nations of the earth, including our neighbors across the border. "We have offered the United States to negotiate like two sensible nations, desirous of getting mutual trade. And

what does Mr. Blaine say? He says: "I think we ought to have a basis to negotiate." And Mr. Blaine went further, so anxious was he to meet our views. He said that after the 4th of March he would agree to meet the British minister and a delegation from Canada to consider the question and that is the position in which the matter stands now."

(Extract from Sir John Macdonald's opening speech in the campaign of 1891, delivered at the Academy of Music, Toronto, on February 21st.)

CHANCE OF A LIFE TIME.

The address of Mr. Fair to the electors of the county is that of a candidate who, though liberal in his tendencies, is independent enough to vote on public questions according to his judgment. The liberal party, by which way, is the only one in which there are independents. The conservative party has no use for the one who wants to exercise his freedom and vote as he pleases.

This is being demonstrated in the pending election. Several conservative members who favoured lowered duties, (at least they said so), and who favoured reciprocity, in fact were delighted with it, are now, as candidates, opposing it. Why? It is the command of the party leaders. No one could tell what Dr. Edwards thought of the trade agreement for some time after it was made public. He was reported to be studying it when, as a matter of fact, he was waiting for marching orders. The orders he later received. Frontenac stands to be benefited by the trade agreement, and very materially benefited. This has been shown by several articles which have appeared in the Whig. Mr. Fair pledges himself to support the agreement in parliament, and any other measures which promise to advance the agriculturist's interest.

This is a farmers' election, the only election, indeed, that has taken place in many years in which the tillers of the soil have it in their power to score a success. No one so well as a farmer can represent his fellow-labourers, because his and their interests are identical and he can enter sympathetically into all their plans and purposes. If the farmers of Frontenac want one of their class to represent them in parliament now is their time and this is their opportunity.

CAMPAIGN NOTES.

Borden opposed the British preference, and now he is afraid a little untaxed trading between Canada and the United States will hurt British connection.

When Mr. Sifton accepted the chairmanship of the conservation commission he was understood to be out of politics. When the election is over his non-political position should be made plainer.

Three liberals opposed reciprocity in the last parliament. Mr. Sifton and Mr. Harris are not candidates, and Mr. German has repented, and will support the trade agreement if it is approved by the people.

It is calculated that reciprocity will put \$12,000,000 into the pockets of the Saskatchewan farmer—if it carries in the country and the commons. This is a powerful incentive to vote right.

The Duke of Connaught plans an extended visit to the United States next February. The conservative party should object. He mustn't be too friendly with the Americans. They may annex him as well as Canada.

Wentworth conservatives are now repudiating C. C. Wilson, the nominee of the party. This is the limit of provincial interference. Wilson is the candidate of the Whitney government, and the people will not have him.

Had the reciprocity agreement not been blocked by the conservative members of the commons the grape growers would not be making \$15 a ton more on their grapes. This makes them more or less angry, and the more eager to vote for the agreement.

Of the three liberals who deserted the government on the trade agreement only one has sought reelection—Mr.

German. Mr. Sifton wrote to Brandon that he would not be a candidate, and Mr. Harris was not offered a nomination in Brantford.

Mark the magnanimity of the premier. He knows what is the matter with Bourassa and Sifton, but he preserves a dignified silence. It is well. The people have no relish for a recital of any one's petty grievances. Both Bourassa and Sifton are ambitious men.

Sir John Macdonald talked of retiring years before he did—he even intimated that Sir Charles Tupper would be his successor. But he remained in public life until the end. So it will be with Laurier. When he retires it will be when his health fails—not before.

Senator Bowell is afraid that the approval of reciprocity means the absorption of Canada by the United States. Mr. Taft calls that rot. Reciprocity was all right so long as Tupper, Bowell and Foster sought it. It is all wrong because Fielding and Paterson secured it.

Lancet, in Sorel, was not again offered the liberal nomination. That in itself is evidence enough that the people do not approve of any one who is tainted with scandal. The tory press says he was not at the Laurier meeting. Oh, yes he was. He was present, heard the premier, and applauded most of what he said.

A rallying cry in the west is "Revise the railway rates. Get rid of their burdens." And the C.P.R. is getting ready for the battle by having two of its solicitors take the field as candidates for parliament—Mr. Aikin in Brandon and Mr. Bennett in Calgary. As the people realize the situation they will vote.

MARVEL OF MARVELS

POLITICAL ENEMIES JOIN ISSUE TO BEAT LAURIER.

What Holds Them Together—A Disgruntled Coterie in a Bad Way—What Will be the Upshot of All This?

Montreal Herald.

The tory who takes a breathing spell in this election is lost. While the heat keeps up he can join in the hue and cry against Laurier, but if he ever dares to let himself think what would be if Laurier were unhorsed it might shock him into right reason.

Just look at the combinations included in the effort to beat Laurier. Begin with Joe Martin. His first anger was due to Mr. Sifton's being preferred before him. Yet he joins Sifton in the effort to beat Laurier. His second anger arose from being turned out of office as premier of British Columbia, which resulted in Mr. McBride's becoming a great man. He and McBride are opposing Laurier.

Sir Herbert Tupper was exiled from public life, because Mr. Sifton would not have Manitoba coerced. Tupper and Sifton are together against Laurier. Mr. Ames toured the country with a lantern slide lecture to prove that Mr. Sifton was the Arsene Lupin of Canadian public life. Mr. Ames and Mr. Sifton are hand in glove against Laurier.

Bob Rogers and Clifford Sifton have been rivals for years. If there is a more expert politician than one of them it is the other. Their enmity has divided Manitoba into rival camps. They now go arm-in-arm in the hotel corridors, plotting against Laurier. Mr. Bourassa and Mr. Sifton flew off from Laurier in opposite directions over the autonomy hills. They are working together to beat Laurier.

Joe Martin did the damage to Manitoba schools which Mr. Bourassa's backers are still determined to repair. The two believe in reciprocity, and the two are working together to beat Laurier.

Mr. Bourassa spent the summer of 1907 proving on the platform that Jean Prevost was unfit to be a cabinet minister, and a little later, in consequence, Mr. Prevost ceased to be one. Now the two are working side by side in the same direction.

One-half the conservative delegation at Ottawa wants to be quit of Mr. Foster; another half wants to be quit of Mr. Borden; one section wants no navy, another section wants a navy and a contribution, top. Mr. Borden is the unit of compromise. Mr. Foster are lined up against Laurier, side by side till after the election. Even on reciprocity there is no agreement. Mr. Heron is for it, Mr. Bourassa is for it; Mr. Monk is partly for it, Mr. Haultain is all for it. Where is the unity of purpose, policy, of direction that could be substituted for what Laurier gives?

PUBLIC OPINION.

The Popular Cries. "Sir Wilfrid Laurier has yielded to the seductions of imperialism," cries Le Desoir. "Sir Wilfrid Laurier has brought the empire to the verge of disintegration," shrieks the Toronto News.

New Declaration.

W. T. White declares that by fastening present obstructions on her trade Canada will be making a new declaration of independence. He must mean a declaration of imbecility.

A Very Tidy Defence.

What amuses liberals is to hear Mr. Borden praising Mr. Foster, though only a year ago, when that gentleman was sick, the opposition leader listened without protest to public attacks upon his lieutenant's honor emanating from men prominent in the conservative party.

A Bright Outlook.

Mr. P. J. Paradis, the liberal organizer in the district of Quebec from whom there are probably few better political experts in Canada, says that the liberals will capture three out of the four seats now held by the opposition in that section of the province. Where is the "Borden victory" to come from?

Value to Nova Scotia.

If the maritime provinces are to grow in production and wealth they must secure means of expansion by markets for their surplus natural products. We cannot stay at home, swap jackknives with one another and thereafter grow rich and multiply. We must have outside markets for our products.

Oh, What a Salad.

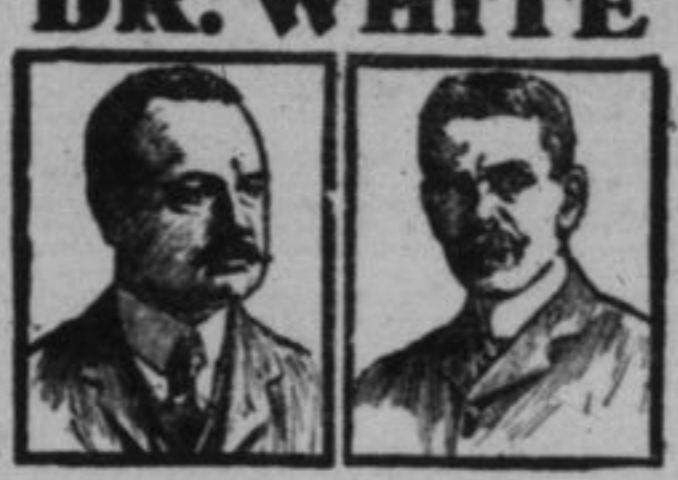
Sir Wilfrid Laurier. "When I see Mr. Borden, Mr. Sifton, and Mr. Bourassa united against me, I say to myself 'What a salad.' I suppose Mr. Sifton furnishes the oil for it, and I am sure Mr. Bourassa supplies the vinegar, while poor Mr. Borden has to eat it."—Sir Wilfrid Laurier at Ahuntsic.

Bullied Into Silence.

Toronto Globe. In politics a man cannot always choose his company as he can in private life. He must deal with the selfish, the unclean, the sordidly corrupt. It is for fighting these elements in his party Mr. Borden is equipped. He cannot be bought, but he can be bullied. He was bullied into continuing his responsibility for Mr. Foster.

It is thought that the seizure by the British government of the steamship Foam Queen, at Gravesend, was because she was intended to take part in a royalist plot in Portugal, there being a supply of arms and ammunition on board. Porepine has been granted a post office. Fire having wiped out the one at Pottsville, half a mile from the gold village, the post office has been removed.

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ALMOST UNIVERSAL DESIRE

For Reciprocity Found in Eastern Townships.

Mr. Fisher got something like an ovation when he got up to speak. He is tremendously popular all through the Eastern Townships. "I have found an almost universal desire for reciprocity all through the Eastern Townships," he said, "not only among the grubs, but among the Tories. It is what we have been waiting for for years; and now that we have got it we mean to keep it. It is time to break away from party lines."

"John Gibson, of Cowansville, of a fine old tory family, is going to vote for it so is Mike Curry, of Dunham," yelled a man in the crowd. "You have your own interests to consult, haven't you?" laughed Mr. Fisher. "You have been selling sheep and cream to the United States for some years. Why? Because it paid. That is the only reason you have been doing it. You aren't fools, and you didn't send your stuff over there to benefit the Yankees or anybody else. In the face of all, you have been making money; but would it not be better if you did not have any obstacles?"

"Our opponents say that the British market is the best, but if that is so, how is it that Canada has been selling a hundred times more horses and seven times more sheep to the United States? For years you have been selling butter and cheese to Montreal for shipment to England; some years we sold a million and a quarter dollars' worth of butter to England. The duty on cream in the United States was twenty cents a quart, and the duty on butter was six cents a pound. In those days it was better to ship to England, but the Payne-Aldrich tariff reduced the duty on cream into the United States to five cents a quart, and what happened? The butter export to England dropped to three hundred and fifty thousand dollars, while the cream exports to the United States rose to \$500,000 in one year, and last year it was \$1,700,000. The British market was still open, but there was more money in shipping cream to the United States. You are not fools, and you know how to sell to your best advantage."

How About Manufacturers?

Sir Wilfrid at Magog, Que. On the way from Farnham Sir Wilfrid spoke at Magog. In reply to an address some shouts of "No! No!" greeted Sir Wilfrid's remark. Sir Wilfrid was in the best of humor, however, and carried the vast majority of the audience with him. "I do not believe the time has yet come, and it may not for some time, and it may never come at all, when we should take the duties of manufacturers," he said. "I say, under the circumstances, it would not be good policy to have free trade between Canada and the United States in all products. If the United States should, as before, decide to repeal this agreement, then I say that it suits them to do so, and we will do as our fathers did, stand up like men and refuse to yield to Yankee blandishments. They know a good thing when they see it, and I would not be surprised if they coveted Canada; but another spirit has come into the American nation—a spirit evidenced by those who fathered the agreement, that on this continent there is room for two nations which have sprung from the loins of Great Britain without jeopardizing the independence of one or the other. If any government is in favor of annexation, it is not the Laurier government."

Canner and Farmer.

Defending Canadian canners for placing orders for tin plate in the United States, the St. Thomas Times asks: "What sort of a reputation for business prudence would Mr. David Marshall or any other man deserve if he paid ten cents a case more for tin plate than was necessary?" And what sort of reputation for business prudence would the farmers of Canada deserve if they wished to continue to say from ten to thirty cents per bushel in unnecessary duties on the grain which they send to the States? Is all the "business prudence" to be on the side of the combiners?

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