

CITIES WILL BENEFIT

BY RECIPROCITY WITH THE UNITED STATES.

There will be more food and cheaper food—Reciprocity will enrich the tables of the poor.

So much attention has been paid to the benefits which the farmers will receive from the operation of the reciprocity agreement that there is a danger that the dwellers in the cities and towns may lose sight of the very important fact that there is relief for them also in the agreement. That agreement will lengthen the season and, by competition, lower prices.

Early fruits and vegetables are regarded in this country as luxuries. But why should tomatoes and strawberries be considered as luxuries at one season of the year and as necessities at another? Why should they be found on the rich man's table alone at one time of the year while at other times they are common to both rich and poor alike?

The answer is the existence of the tariff. The removal of the taxes upon food products must necessarily result in benefit to rich and poor alike and give to everyone a free use of the enormous resources of North America.

Nature and providence have spread a wonderful table for the people of this continent. Between the Arctic and the Gulf of Mexico there is an enormous variety of climate and soil.

Hard wheat grows best in Saskatchewan and Manitoba; corn grows best in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas. Vegetables and fruits grow best at one season of the year in Ontario and Quebec, at another season in the middle states, and at another season in the southern states.

It stands to reason that we shall all have more food and better food if we avail ourselves freely of the varied and abundant food supply of North America.

When, because of the season, the Canadian farmer cannot supply the demand, he is not such a dog in the manger as to be angry because the American farmer can do so.

The general effect of reciprocity in good will be to enrich the tables of all the people, and especially of the poor all over Canada and the United States. The poor man will get the food cheaper, but the producer will be more compensated by the increase in consumption, by the widening of the market, and by the lengthening of the season.

Now let us see just what the agreement will do for the housewife.

It will place poultry on the free list, thereby reducing the duty by 20 per cent.

It will reduce the price of fresh vegetables by 30 per cent, by the placing of them on the free list.

It will abolish the duties which we now have to pay of 40 cents a barrel on apples, of 50 cents a bushel upon pears, of \$1 a 100 pounds on peaches, of 2 cents a pound on grapes, and of 25 per cent, on all other edible fruits.

There are seasons of the year when it is impossible to get eggs in Canada. Will not be a benefit at such times to have the duty of 3 cents a dozen taken off?

Fish of all kinds are to be put on the free list such as oysters, upon which we now pay a duty of 10 cents a gallon, and fresh lobsters which are now dutiable at 25 per cent.

Bacon and hams are reduced from 2c per lb. to 1c cent. Canned meats and poultry from 25 per cent. to 20 per cent. Lard from 2c to 1c. Canned vegetables from 1c to 1c. Cereals from 25 per cent. to 17 1/2 per cent.

Surely these reductions must be of benefit to the consumer, and must give the housewife more money to spend.

DIVISION COURT CASES

Heard by Judge Price on Tuesday Afternoon.

James Luckie vs. John Cunningham, account, \$5.70. Judgment in full.

A. B. Brown vs. W. Bashey; rent, \$10. Judgment in full.

James Gowdy vs. Calvin Lewis, Jr.; garnishee judgment, \$19.47. Judgment in full.

L. Abramson vs. E. Coopes; account, \$12. Judgment for \$11.55.

Mrs. D. Seely vs. M. O'Neil; board, \$18. Judgment for \$20.

A. C. Waggoner vs. H. Smith; account, \$11.75. Judgment for \$6.

O. Vanhoover vs. Frederick Jeffrey; loan, \$3. Judgment in full.

D. Staley vs. G. H. Fowler, account \$12.50; judgment for plaintiff.

G. A. Bateman vs. Ernest Babcock, note \$25.10; judgment for plaintiff.

F. G. Hager vs. Thomas Gallagher, account, \$4; judgment in full.

S. Hartman vs. John Howard, account \$4.28; judgment in full.

F. Bazeley vs. Capt. Smith, account \$11.90; judgment for plaintiff.

Jane Lyons vs. D. Hay, sr., account \$2.09; judgment in full.

A. Circle vs. J. Blake, account \$4.50; judgment in part.

Frank Hepburn vs. James Blake, board, \$8.50; judgment in part.

Frank Hepburn vs. Joseph Whitford, board \$36; judgment for \$13.80.

Booth & Co. vs. F. McAllerton, account \$7; judgment in full.

Booth & Co. vs. William Bird; account, \$3.85. Judgment in full.

Lemmon & Co. vs. Charles Gowne; account, \$32.80. Judgment for defendant.

Jane Lyons vs. John Smith; account, \$10. Judgment for \$8.

Joseph Abramson vs. Adam Bone; account, \$10. Judgment for \$5.98.

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The Berlin Tageblatt says the Turkish Navy League recently advanced money to the navy department with which to purchase several cruisers. The department has now decided to buy the American cruisers Saratoga, Olympia and Raleigh.

**When Sir Wilfrid Finishes His Work**

A despatch in the morning pages from St. Jerome, Quebec, states that Sir Wilfrid Laurier "finished his audience by announcing that if defeated in the coming election he would retire at once and forever from public life and would not lead the opposition in the next parliament."

We fancy that it was only the young reporter who wrote this sentence that was at all startled. There is nothing new in the statement. Sir Wilfrid has made it over and over again in recent years, as Ottawa people know well.

For instance, Sir Wilfrid, speaking in Ottawa on July 22nd, 1907, said: "It is now eleven years since I became a resident of Ottawa, and every day the ties that bind me to this city are winding more and more about my heart, and my resolve is, whatever my political fortunes may be, to live and die in the city of Ottawa."

"If it were the will of God to take my health from me, or if it pleased the people of Canada to withdraw their confidence in my government, I shall become again what I was before, a private citizen of Canada and of Ottawa. I desire no other titles, but if I am to have another title and another position, I would simply desire to become a member of the Ottawa improvement commission. Then I could continue effectively the deep interest I always took in the beautifying of the city."

The following year the electors of Canada sent an overwhelming mandate to Sir Wilfrid to stay at the helm and "finish his work." There is little doubt that they will repeat that mandate in September next.

WHAT W. H. SHARPE SAID.**Comparative Prices on Both Sides of Line.**

In the debate on supply on April 15th, 1910, W. H. Sharpe, conservative member for Lévis, emphasized some of the burdens which the government is now about to lighten. He told in the little town of Mowbray, in 1908, the elevators handled over 300,000 bushels of wheat. During the following spring a spur railway was built across the line into Dakota and an elevator erected there. The result was that in the following season, instead of 300,000 bushels, only 100,000 bushels were handled on the Cana side, while the United States elevator handled 300,000 bushels. Canadian farmers took their grain across and shipped it back in bond into Canada to take ports. By pursuing this course, according to Mr. Sharpe, the Canadian farmers received from thirteen to four cents a bushel more for their grain than if they had dealt in Canada.

The instructive feature of this is the facilities afforded by trade impediments for the formation of combinations. In the instance quoted it was necessary to carry the grain out of the country and back again. But it is not likely that the Canadian elevator would long remain partly idle when the business could be secured again by giving up the thirteen or fourteen cents per bushel and treating its patrons fairly. It will not be necessary in future for the Canadian farmers to take their

grain abroad. The mere fact that they can do so when necessary will secure them fair treatment at home. What has been accomplished by the railway in this case will be accomplished by tariff relief in many other cases. The more possibility of trade will prevent extortion. That is why so much money is being spent to perpetuate the obstacles. Mr. Sharpe went on to declare that while in the province of Manitoba, along the boundary line, land was worth \$20 or \$25, and in some cases \$30 an acre, right across on the American side, on account of the better treatment which is accorded the farmers in North Dakota, land is worth from \$40 to \$50 an acre. The best way to even up conditions will be to remove some of the artificial impediments. With regard to the cattle industry Mr. Sharpe made a most suggestive speech.

"I know numbers of farmers in my constituency who always in the past have kept from fifty to seventy-five and 100 head of cattle, but these men are selling out their heads and going out of business because the combines are robbing them of every dollar they should make. It goes without saying that the farmers must keep stock in order to keep up the standard of their land, and if the cattle industry declines, much of the land will go to waste."

Mr. Sharpe quoted from the finding of the provincial commission to the effect that on each bushel raised the farmer lost \$5.50, the retail dealers made an average of \$13.60, and the abattoir men, the great beef combine of Winnipeg, made \$23.10. His allusion to the inadequate relief afforded by the drovers from Dakota buying over a duty which is 27 1/2 cents per head, suggests the advantages to be secured by removing this obstacle. No wonder the middlemen are spending money lavishly.

High Cost of Living in Japan. U.S. Consular and Trade Report.

According to an article in Osaka Asahi, prices have gone up in Japan two-fold in the last twenty years while the purchasing value of the currency has sensibly declined. Taking the average rate of prices in January, 1887, at 100, and the value of the currency at the same time at 100, the rate of prices in 1910 would be 228, and the value of currency 43, according to a table published by the Bank of Japan.

Another table published by the same bank shows that the advance in the prices of imported goods has been comparatively small, while the rise in the price of goods produced for the home market and for export has been greater. Compared with the advance in prices in other countries the Japanese rate of advances has been about two per cent. greater than that in London and New York. This may be due to some special influence, such as the enormous expansion in the amount of money in circulation.

A Pathetic Plea. Windsor Record.

"I was elected for a term of three years at least. What crime have I committed that I should be slaughtered at the end of a year and a half?" asks Mr. Wilecox. Mr. Borden the conservative leader can best answer the question.

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