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FRIDAY, AUG. 25

CANADA AND THE FOOD TAXES

A tariff on foodstuffs means a tax on food. Britain learned that primary economic fact through sore experience. For this reason no British Government will dare tax the food of the British people. Such a proposal was made under the guise of a preference on Canadian wheat. Its purpose, Mr. Chamberlain said, was to build up the Empire. But three times over the people of Britain refused it. Every Liberal and every Radical fought it. Today inside the Unionist party itself it is being strongly opposed and openly abandoned. The younger men are coming to see, what Mr. Balfour never doubted, that freedom to import foodstuffs from the widest, the best, and the most convenient markets is absolutely necessary not only to Britain's commercial stability, but also to the very life of the British people. Britain will not tax her people's food, and therefore she cannot give a preference on Canadian wheat.

An Empire bound together by a tax on the food of the people, with its millionaires on great estates and its inevitable hungry paupers in city slums, is an Empire doomed to speedy disruption and hopeless decay. And just because the Government and people of Britain reject that policy of tariff union, and the overseas Prime Ministers refuse it, the British Empire today is a living thing, with promise of life and power and glory more splendid and more enduring than ever these food-tax jingoes dreamed.

And in Canada of all places this food-tax policy is of all things the most inexcusable. There is for it not even the poor excuse of "protecting and infant industry." Agriculture and dairying and lumbering and the fisheries are not puny infants whining to be spoon-fed. They can protect themselves by the robustness of their own superiority. All they ask is that the Government see to it that the canals are adequate, that the railways are efficient and just, and that tariff obstructions are taken out of the way. The farmers scorn the notion that they cannot protect themselves. They mock the idea that a tariff can protect them. If any Canadian workman can buy meat or flour or cheese or fruit at cheaper prices or of better quality in the United States than he can in Canada the farmers will not stand in his way. They are quite willing to take their chances with their products in a market open to the world.

The food-tax folly is even more foolish still. Under the reciprocity agreement not only would the consumers have all the advantages of the choice and quality and price provided by the wide range and variety of soil and season and climate given by God to this American continent, but there would also be opened to the farmers and fishermen and lumber dealers of Canada at their very door the enormous and profitable markets of the United States. The almost prohibitive duties along 3,700 miles of boundary would be removed. Anything the Canadian producer has to sell would find readiest market without tax or loss. The same agreement that would give freedom to the consumers in the city would open wide the doors to the men on the farm.

But no! We are told it must not be. The city man must not be free to buy; the farm man must not be free to sell, and all this in the sacred name of Empire! Yes, the name is Empire, but the real thing is the protected monopoly and the political necessity of those whose craft is in danger. They call loudly to the common people to save the Empire, but their chief concern is for the class privileges that create the few millionaires whose easy money pays for this loud Imperial call.

But the call is hollow and must prove vain. Neither the consuming millions nor the producing millions will be longer deceived by this sham patriotism of the few that profits from the burdens of the many. The food of Canadians ought to be free. The farmers ought to be free. A free Canada makes for a loyal Empire.

FRUIT FOR THE WEST

Opposition papers are publishing the following paragraph as a proof of the disastrous results which will accrue from reciprocity:

How the Western American railways view the prospect of increased freight traffic in fruit as a prospective result of reciprocity is very strikingly revealed in information which reached the Parliament Buildings. The office of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association received word that the Oklahoma-Washington Railway and Navigation Company has already cut rates by over 25 per cent from points in the Western States to points in the Canadian West. This reduction applies to fruit alone. From Walla Walla, La Grande, and North Yakima to Lethbridge the former rate of \$1 per hundred weight has been reduced to 75 cents, and from the same points to Winnipeg, where the former rate was \$1.12, it has been reduced to 65 cents.

From Hood River to Lethbridge, where the former rate was \$1.12 1-2 it is now 80 cents, and from Hood River to Regina and Winnipeg, where the rate used to be \$1.25, the new schedule has it at 80 cents.

People who know the West, and who are aware of the almost prohibitive prices which are asked there for fruit, will see in the foregoing announcement a real boon for Western Canada. At present, whatever fruit is shipped to the newer Provinces from Eastern Canada is subject to a great loss by deterioration; most varieties are not shipped at all. In the far West, therefore, the consumer must pay duty on United States fruit from Eastern Canada, the latter often in poor condition. Eastern growers will be more than compensated for the loss of this questionable market by the advantages offered by an American market near at hand. The West will get its fruit duty free from the nearby States.

And reduction of freight rates is not such an ominous thing as Opposition papers appear to think. When American railways reduce rates Canadian roads will have to follow suit in order to compete.

If there is one thing more certain than any other about the effect of reciprocity on the Dominion of Canada it is that the reciprocity policy will result in a more extensive and prosperity-spreading development of British Columbia than has ever happened yet, or is ever likely to happen under retrograde Conservatism which aims to "Conserve" the country's resources for the few, rather than to develop them liberally for the many. As if we didn't need to encourage the many to settle in the Province and help on the good work!

THE COSY CORNER

DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO THE INTERESTS OF WOMEN

This is a little section of the paper, which from day to day will be devoted to subjects of special interest to women. Any and all of the ladies of Prince Rupert are invited to contribute to its columns, and to take part in its discussions. Suggestions and criticisms are invited by the editor. The hope is expressed that "The Cosy Corner" will fill a social need.

CHARMING MIDSUMMER FROCK



Black striped white cotton voile was used in the making of this dainty frock. The tunic or overdress is particularly pretty and extends from side to side around back only. Bias folds of cerise satin trim and run up to the bodice under a girle and on to kimono sleeve. The latter is finished with a turned frill of white lawn, edged with a narrow band of cerise satin and matches the frilled collar. The buttons are black velvet.

VACATION GIRLS

Good Story Tellers as Well as Good Candy Makers

Vacation girls are divided into two classes, the girls who camp and the girls who don't. Here's some advice for the former class. Take along a good supply of stories to tell. Around the camp fire at night a good story teller is an acquisition. Not only is a supply of jokes good; but weird stories, ghost stories, animal stories, will all be listened to with avidity. Not all evenings will be spent around the camp fire, but some will, and the good talker will add much to the evening's pleasure.

When a bottle of olives has been opened and not all the olives used, put a teaspoonful of olive oil, or enough to cover the top of the liquid remaining in the bottle, and the olives will not become flat or stale.

WOMEN FRUITGROWERS

The Coming Industry for the Women of B. C.

Women fruitgrowers are supporting themselves in a most satisfactory way by means of the small fruits and early vegetables which they plant between the rows of the growing apple trees. Those in charge of the lands of the Byanes lake district have provided a skilled expert, whose sole business is to assist and advise the newcomer.

"Is any experience necessary for fruit-growing?" remarks this expert. "I would frankly say that experience of local conditions is worth much more than general agricultural theoretical knowledge. More than 80 per cent of the men and women who make up fruit growing in British Columbia start absolutely without experience of any sort of farming. My idea is that a woman of education and application will do far better than a so-called 'practical fruit-grower' who is illiterate. If your 'educated gentlewoman' is not afraid of real work in the open, she will find her brain a greater asset than her hands; no line of agriculture pays better for the intelligence devoted to it than fruit-farming does.

THE PANEL SKIRT

Variety of Material Now Used For It

Materials now being used for the panel skirt are satin, taffeta, and rajah silk, the satin being first choice. When not of the skirt material, however, there is always a certain unsuitability in appearance that is rather undesirable. Frequently a substitute is found in the use of a sash, either of ribbon or of wide silk basket braid, it being tied at the back and the wide ends falling down the skirt nearly to the hem.

Raisin Drop Cookies

One cup sugar, 2 eggs, 2-3 cup shortening 1-2 cup milk, a little salt, 1 teaspoon vanilla, 2 teaspoons level of cream tartar, 1 level teaspoonful of soda, flour to make a soft dough. Drop on buttered tins, place a spoonful of filling on the top, and bake a delicate brown. Have your dough stiff enough so filling will not fall to the bottom. Filling for raisin drop cookies: One cup chopped raisins, 1-2 cup sugar, 1-2 cup water, 1 dessert-spoonful flour. Cook till thick as cream. Stir to prevent burning.

When making a cover for a sofa pillow, it is well to have it at least an inch smaller each way than the pillow itself.

Wipe off the woodwork of shelves and floors of closets or wherever danger of moth lies, with a solution of carbolic acid.

ITEMS OF SPORT

The refereeing in last Saturday's lacrosse match between Vancouver and New Westminster is the subject of much adverse comment in the terminal city. The executive of the Vancouver Lacrosse Club is dissatisfied, to say the least, and unless an equal line is drawn between it and the New Westminster Club in the matter of appointing officials for the games, it is probable that no match will take place next Labor Day, September 4, at New Westminster. Mr. Con Jones of the Vancouver Lacrosse Club has issued the following statement: "I consider that the game was handed to New Westminster by the referees and the goal umpire, and that there will be no game on September 4 unless Vancouver has some say in the selection of referees for that day, of which they have not had so far this year."

Miss Florence Sutton of California defeated Miss Lois Moyes of Toronto for the tennis championship of Canada last week.

Although less than a month distant, the approaching ten-round bout in Milwaukee, Wis., between Ad Wolgast, champion of the world, and Packey McFarland, scheduled for Friday, September 15, is the one bout that can be considered worth while. The fact that the match is scheduled for no more than ten rounds has been lost sight of in the East, and, strange to say, there are many willing to predict that Wolgast has made a bad bargain and will be whipped by the stockyards boy, writes Harry B. Smith, the well-known San Francisco ring authority.

Con Walsh, giant weight tosser of the New York Athletic Club and one of the greatest performers on earth in the hammer throw and 56 pound weight event, is now in Seattle and a member of the Seattle Athletic Club. The big New Yorker will accompany the S. A. C. track team to the Pacific Coast championship games at Astoria on August 25, but he will be compelled to compete unattached, as his six months' residence is required by the A. A. U. rules before he can represent a town in which he has not previously lived.

Ottawa, Aug. 23.—Frank Patrick, promoter of the new Western Hockey League, arrived in Ottawa today in search of players. He has lines out for Taylor of Renfrew, Lake, Kerr, Walsh and others of Ottawa and had conferences with all of them. None, however, consented to do any signing until the new league is a certainty.

Senator Jim Scott of Wyoming has been qualified to membership in the exalted Order of Tiger Tamers, handing the Detroit aggregation a 6 to 1 defeat.

May be Ty Cobb isn't the whole works among the Tigers, but they haven't won a game since the Georgia peach dropped from the line-up.

This Boston aggregation is going to be fine at coming from behind when a game seems hopeless and either winning or tying the score.

Chicago, Aug. 23.—Tom Jones, manager of Ad Wolgast, professes to believe there is a possibility that the Wolgast-McFarland fight scheduled for Milwaukee, September 15, will not come off. He declared there would be no hitch in the Wolgast camp, but that McFarland was likely to "crawl." McFarland indignantly denies the charge.

New York, Aug. 23.—Young Corbett, who travelled over the White Way faster than any other champion, wants to come back. Not for gold, but simply for revenge on Jimmy Britt, whom he thinks he can trounce now. He is now in active training at a road house near here, but admits it may be several months before he can get into condition.

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