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THE MORNING GUARDIAN.

MONDAY, JULY, 31 1899.

PROHIBITION IN PARLIAMENT.

At length prohibition has received an airing in Parliament, the discussion being brought on by resolution of Mr. Flint, the Liberal member for Yarmouth N. S. calling for prohibition by Provinces. To this an amendment was moved by Mr. McClure, Liberal, representing Colchester N. S. declaring that the time has arrived when it is expedient to prohibit the importation, manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in Canada. To this a further amendment was moved by Mr. Parmelee, Liberal member for Waterloo, Québec affirming that the plebiscite vote showed the prohibition sentiment is not sufficiently pronounced to enable a prohibitory law to be carried out, and therefore no such law ought to be now enacted.

It is to be observed that these three motions represent three phases of opinion in regard to the question at issue. Mr. Flint's proposition would enable the Provinces where the prohibition sentiment is strong to entirely prohibit the traffic within their boundaries, while leaving Québec free to continue as at present. Mr. McClure's resolution practically demands prohibition for the whole of Canada at once, and reflects the view of advanced prohibitionists. Mr. Parmelee's motion is an embodiment of the Premier's answer to the Dominion Alliance refusing prohibition.

The Government as such, takes no action. And the Opposition as such, through its leader Sir Charles Tupper, does not pronounce in favor of prohibition. The opposition is not responsible in the sense that the Government is in regard to giving effect to the will of the people as expressed in the plebiscite nor can the attitude of the Opposition leader afford any excuse for the refusal of the Government to act. But the attitude of Sir Charles Tupper must be of interest to all prohibitionists, inasmuch as it shows that if the present Government were ousted and a Conservative government formed in its stead, the latter would not now introduce a prohibitory law. There can be little doubt that the Liberal party in the Commons, being

in large majority in that House, contains a large number of prohibitionists, though but few of them are prepared to break with the party leaders because of their refusal of prohibition. Mr. McClure truly expressed the inwardness of the case when he said both parties are opposed to prohibition. Neither the one nor the other will move in the matter as a party until compelled to do so by stress of public opinion.

The Patriot has not yet announced the result of its Guessing Bee on the Tignish election. Why not revise the offer and give prizes to those who guessed the farthest away from the numbers polled? In that way the Pioneer would probably get the college course, and the subscription to the Patriot might be given as a consolation prize to one Mr. Gallant.

Messrs WILLIAM STRACHAN, President, and Peter Lyall and John Beattie, co-directors of the Midland Railway Company of Nova Scotia, have just returned from a trip over the railway which is being built from Windsor to Truro, N. S., a distance of 60 miles and when completed will probably be the best built railway in the Lower Provinces, the culverts and sub-structure of all the bridges being of stone, and the grades and curves of the most favorable kind for fast and safe running. It is quite likely that the Midland will be extended Eastward to Brule, a port on the Strait of Northumberland, opposite Charlottetown, P. E. I., and Westward from Windsor to the town of Chester a favorite watering place on the Atlantic coast.—Montreal Gazette, July 20th.

TRADE AND SHIPPING.

PORT OF CHARLOTTETOWN.

July 29.—Arr. Minnow, Pollard. Northport; Susan King, Gorveatt, do; Cardigan, Keeping North Sydney.

July 28.—Cld. S.S. Halifax, Pye, Boston. 29.—Minnow Pollard, Northport; Susan King, Gorveatt, do.

"Two heads are better than one." If the one you have is dull and heavy you need Hood's Sarsaparilla. It will give you prompt relief.

New POTATOES and butter beans, cauliflower, cucumbers, tomatoes, cabbage, carrots, beets, lettuce, mushrooms, &c. at Gay's stalls this morning. 28 11.

Toilet

Requisites

Nothing so nice in the bath as a little toilet water.

We have them in variety—very cheap in bulk also bottled.

All the leading toilet powders—Fine Soaps—Perfumes—Tooth Preparations—etc, Sponges—in variety very low prices.

A. W. REDDIN Pharm B

Central Drug Store,
SUNNYSIDE.

THE EDITOR'S MAIL.

THE TARIFF SITUATION.

SIR,—The very substantial increase in our Customs revenue which followed the reduction in duties in 1897 and 1898 should allay the fears of those who asserted that reductions would result in a loss of revenue and force the Government to resort to some form of direct taxation. As it becomes generally known that a reduction in protective duties, no matter in what country enforced, results in an increase of revenue, the main objection, as far as Canada is concerned, of getting back to a revenue tariff will diminish.

We have but to trace the influence such reductions must have on effective demand to understand why it is that an increased revenue from imports results. To do this we must keep in mind two well established facts, namely, that about 90 per cent of the people are wage-earners, and that about the same proportion live up to their income. A good deal of confusion which surrounds many economic questions might be avoided were these two facts kept in mind. With our eyes open to our surroundings, and these facts before us, a simple but logical explanation of the seeming anomaly is possible.

We all know that after the Fielding Tariff was brought down a general scaling down of prices took place. In 1898 when the preferential duties went into full force this scaling down process was repeated. Now in as much as 90 per cent of the people spend all the money they have, whether prices are high or low, the scaling down would immediately give a rise to a proportionate increase in effective demand. To supply the increased quantity demanded would certainly require an increase in the number of persons engaged in production and distribution—thus decreasing the number of the unemployed. A decrease in the number of the unemployed invariably forces wages to rise.

We have therefore as a necessary result of the lowering of the tariff an enormous increase of the number in receipt of wages and an actual increase in the average wages of those who were employed prior to the reduction.

The degree to which these improvements in the position of the wage-earners must have influenced effective demand may be understood when we consider the simple, but not very well understood, fact that all the wealth of things produced each year by the community represents, less a small fraction, the amount of wages paid for their actual production and distribution. Judging from an estimate of the annual production of our farms made by an official of the Agriculture Department the annual production of wealth from all sources in Canada must be in the neighbourhood of \$1,500,000,000. Now as this sum roughly represents wages paid by employers and wages paid to those who employ themselves and pay themselves out of the proceeds of the things they produce, it is easy to understand why an increase in the average number and pay of the wage-earners under contract, and an increase in the purchasing power of wages generally, which a decrease in the price of commodities necessarily involves, must have produced the business activity that has characterized the last, and the first ten months of the present, fiscal year. The general increase in the wages and in the number of people in receipt of wages, enables the community as a whole to spend more money in the purchase of the cheapened commodities than they could possibly spend when wages were lower, wage-earners fewer, and prices higher. Imports would increase in proportion to the increased purchasing power of the people.

(Continued on the Sixth Page.)

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Our special sale of shirt waists still going on.

Every waist must go.

\$6.00 waists for	\$4.00
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1.85 " " "	1.24
1.50 " " "	1.00
1.40 " " "	.97
" " "	.94
" " "	.90
1.30 " " "	.88
1.25 " " "	.84
1.15 " " "	.77
1.10 " " "	.74
1.00 " " "	.67
.95 " " "	.64
.50 " " "	.30

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Bazar glove fitting patterns 15 cents each. 500 August fashion sheets just received, given away ask for one.

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