

THE GUARDIAN

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THE MORNING GUARDIAN

MONDAY, DEC. 14, 1908.

THE GOVERNMENT AND MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

It has been objected that the Laurier Government has not been sympathetic as it ought to have been toward Mr. Chamberlain's proposals, and that having made a preference in favor of British goods as a free gift, asking nothing in return, there was last spring a threat made by our Finance Minister that if we are not presently granted some advantages for our products in the British market our preferential tariff may be withdrawn. In regard to the first of these objections it may be observed that Mr. Chamberlain's proposals as set before the British people are not official. He has put them forward as a private member of the House and neither of the two political parties in the United Kingdom is committed to them. In this view of the case it is difficult to see how our Government could have taken any official notice of Mr. Chamberlain's movement. It will be time enough

to do so when his plans have been formulated for approval or rejection by the British Parliament.

As to the second objection we cannot think the course of the Laurier Government has been more than partly consistent. It was certainly insisted on the part of the Government in 1897 that the preference conceded to the Mother Country was a free will offering on the part of Canada, without expectation or consideration of favors to be received in return. It was upon this feature that our political parties divided, the Conservative contention being from the first that if we gave a preference we were entitled to preferential treatment in return. It is now apparent that in this as in some other matters the Government of the day has slowly come around to the Opposition view of the matter. On no other ground can the threat of Mr. Fielding to abrogate the present preference, unless we are accorded preferential treatment by Britain, be explained.

What is of more consequence, however, is a recent statement by Hon. Mr. Sifton, delivered before the Canadian Club in Ottawa, and which is the first break of the policy of ministerial reticence on the subject of inter-imperial preference since the Chamberlain movement began. Mr. Sifton implies that Sir Wilfrid Laurier made a definite offer on behalf of Canada at the Colonial Conference last year which is practically the basis of Mr. Chamberlain's movement. That offer was that Canada would improve the existing preference of 3 1/2 per cent. by an additional preference on lists of selected articles given in three different ways—by further reducing duties in favor of the United Kingdom, by raising the duties upon foreign imports, and by imposing duties on certain foreign imports now on the free list. Mr. Sifton implies that the proposals made at the Colonial Conference last year are still open, and that not only Canada, but Australia, New Zealand, Cape Colony and Natal stand ready to give

a new or increased preference to British products in their markets whenever the Mother Country shall respond in kind.

The London Standard takes the ground that Hon. Mr. Sifton's statement has cleared the ground, and we think it has done so to a certain extent. Read in connection with the proceedings at the Colonial Conference and the rather startling statement of Mr. Fielding made last spring in Parliament, we conclude, that the position of the Canadian Government is this: We stand ready to maintain and increase to some extent our tariff preference toward the Mother Country if the Mother Country will give us a fair preference in her markets, but if she will not do this, the existing preference may be in whole or in part withdrawn. This position is not easily reconcilable with the declaration that our preferential tariff was a free gift to the Mother Country, but it affords a pretty strong motive to the British people to accept the principle of reciprocal preference toward the Colonies. There is for them something more to gain if they accept, something to lose if they reject the Chamberlain's proposals.

AN IMPORTANT MEETING.

G. E. Hughes, M. L. A., President of the Merchant's Association has called a meeting of that body, and of all others interested in fire insurance in the City to be held this Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the City Court Room. The object is to consider the late increase and the proposed further increase in the rates of insurance.

The situation in brief is this: Early in the year the Board of Fire Underwriters as agents of the different companies doing business here notified the city of an advance of 25 cts. per \$100 to take effect, as it did on \$1 at of July last, and a further advance of a similar amount to be added on 1st January next, because of the alleged inadequacy of water supply and fire protection service. They claimed at the time that a second main water pipe with an additional supply of water should be obtained; that new hose reels, hose and suitable horses should be procured, repairs made to the fire engine, a patent fire alarm installed and an inspector of electrical appliances appointed. If these things were provided they undertook to remove the added insurance rates.

The City Council has passed a resolution to appoint an electrical inspector, conditional upon the removal of the extra insurance rate, and has complied with the demand of the Fire Underwriters in all other matters excepting the fire alarm, which it has been intimated, the latter are willing to forego for the present, in consideration of the outlay for other improvements in the fire protection service. The points to be considered at the meeting are how to bring about a full accord between the Underwriters and the City. It seems highly desirable that the Underwriters should be represented at the meeting and that a strong effort shall be made to reach an agreement to restore the normal and reasonable rate of insurance.

It is estimated that the proposed increase, past and prospective, of 50 cents per \$100 would amount to from \$15,000, to \$20,000 yearly. This is a serious matter and the more so as the city has already incurred an outlay of between \$50,000 and \$55,000 to provide the new wells, water main, the repairs of the reservoir and improved fire protection service. We hope to see a large attendance at the meeting. The City Council will hold its regular meeting in the evening, and may be guided to a considerable extent by the results of the public meeting in the afternoon.

CARDINAL ESPINOSA DEAD.

MADRID, Dec 9.—Cardinal Herrero Espinosa, Archbishop of Valencia, is dead.

To cure a headache in ten minutes use Kumfort Headache Powders.

Cigar Talk

We certainly carry a very swell line of cigars up as high as 25c each.

We have these put up for Xmas trade in the different grades in boxes of 10 and 25.

We purpose giving you great snaps on these.

Till after Xmas we are retailing many 15c cigars at 2 for a 1/4.

2 for a 1/4 at 10c. 10c for 5c so on.

These are on display. Come in and have a chat on the cigar question and hear our prices.

A. W. Reddin, Phm. B. The Square Druggist, Sunnyside.



SALE OF SILKS AND RIBBONS.

If you have a Christmas obligation to discharge, isn't this just the department to visit

You know Silks make lovely Xmas Gifts, and then look at these wonderful values.

A special line of plain and fancy striped Silks, at per yard **40c**

All our fancy Silks, worth up to 75c a yard, per yard now **49c**

All fancy Silks worth up to 95c, now reduced to per yard **59c**

All fancy Silks, worth up to \$1.25, per yard now **89c**

A lot of Fancy Ribbons at a big discount.

F. PERKINS & CO.

SUNNYSIDE.

A BOY'S CHRISTMAS

Did you ever notice the enthusiasm with which a little fellow hunts for pockets when he puts on a new Suit, Reefer or Overcoat?

Ever notice the satisfied smile that spreads over his face when he has found them? Take the hint?

Nothing so satisfies a boy on Christmas, as to find himself the proud possessor of something new in the way of Clothing.

He'll play with toys awhile and then throw them aside, but he always struts around in his new apparel.

Our holiday stock of Boys' and Children's Clothing is now on display, and a more brilliant exhibit of styles never saw the inside of a Clothing Store nor of any other store that carries Boys' and Children's apparel.

Give the Boys a useful Christmas Gift.

Prowse Bros.,

THE CLOTHIERS.

The promoters of the new hotel project have not been idle and it is understood have met with favorable responses in certain influential quarters. It is understood that the Steam Navigation Company has consented to take stock to the amount of \$10,000, and Mr. McDonald of Dalry \$5,000. The committee are in correspond with the proprietors of the Plant Line, from whom a considerable subscription is asked and expected. The Guardian is informed that there is now a good prospect that the movement will be successful. The Committee hope to have the contract for the erection of the building let in the near future so that work may begin early in the spring.

Millville Items

We find KENDRICKS LINIMENT gives excellent satisfaction, and our sales constantly increasing.

WM. COUTSHARD.

Millville, N. B.
 Just Arrived.—Two car-loads Sleighs,—all latest and up to date styles in one and two seats. Also Robes in Grey, Black and Brown. Our prices are low and our terms of payment made easy. Call and see samples.—A. Horne & Co. 12 4d 2w



A Christmas Reflection

will be a gratifying one if coat, waistcoat and trousers have been made to measure here. That purports much as we regard faithful tailoring—latest patterns, of course; measuring as a science; cutting as an art; sewing and finishing judged by the highest standard of excellence. Real merit marks every garment made by

JOHN McLEOD & Co.

Actual Results and Not Estimates Count.

CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE CO. TORONTO
 PERTH, ONT. Aug. 10th, 1908.
 DEAR SIR:—In acknowledgment of your cheque for \$1,321.00, I desire to express my satisfaction with the outcome of my investment with you. My policy, No 826, was issued on the endowment plan in 1870 for \$100, and I paid ten premiums of \$8 each, or \$88 altogether.
 The surplus payment you now make is a large greater than the total cost of the policy by \$1,233 and I have received the \$1,000 in addition.
 It is hardly necessary for me to say that to have all my payments returned and over \$1,000 in addition, besides the insurance protection all these years, is quite satisfactory to me.
 I congratulate the Canada Life on a record which might almost be considered impossible.

Yours truly,
 F. A. HALL.
W. K. Rogers, Manager P. E. Island Branch, Charlottetown.
E. R. Brow, Special Agent, Charlottetown.

INTRODUCTION

LIFE • BUSINESS EDUCATION

What is Life without a Business Education?

Photography is so simple as to be readily learned by any one of ordinary capacity, and the public benefits to be derived from it are incalculable.—JOHN BAIGER.

In the Benn Pitman System of Photography—Reporting Style.

The spacious rooms furnished by the Charlottetown Business College for Shorthand and Typewriting under the Principalship of J. O. Trainor, are models in themselves for the study of these important subjects. While Mr. Trainor is a new teacher to a Charlottetown class yet, he has already proven what the Phonographic Institute recommended him to be "a competent teacher of Phonography." For a further recommendation or introduction ask ANY member of his class. Here, the Benn Pitman system is taught from the Pitman-Howard text-books, consequently the students find no difficulty in reading their notes.

NOW is a good time to join the classes,
 For full particulars and rates apply to the

Charlottetown Business College,
 L. B. MILLER, Principal.