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### TARIFF AS AN ISSUE

SIGNIFICANT SPEECH BY THE SECRE-TARY OF THE TREASURY

The Question of Canadian Reciproc ity-Democrats Might Readopt Res-olution Passed In Their Convention of 1832.

Following are excerpts from a speech of Hon. Leslie M. Shaw, secretary of the treasury, before the Marquette club of Chicago, Feb. 12, 1904:

It will be somewhat difficult to get an issue out of the tariff.

There is considerable talk about high and low protective tariff schedules, but this does not involve a principle and cannot be made an issue. No one can write a formula that will distin-guish between high protection and low protection. Two years ago, when we were having an annual surplus, our Democratic friends said it was be-cause the tariff was too high. Now we have a monthly deficit, and they say this also is because the tariff is too Two years ago they said that if the tariff were lowered the revenues would be decreased. Now they say that if the tariff were lowered the rev-

nues would be increased.
The only other possible issue that n be carved from the tariff is the roposition that our present protective olicy shelters trusts and monopolies. our political opponents have rung the changes on this so long and recommended the removal of duties from trust made goods until the trusts are destroyed with such continued vehennence that a reaffirmation of their position can severally be made the paraition can scarcely be made the para-nount, though it may become a promissue in the next campaign. The American people by this time bught to understand that any tariff icy that will destroy a monopoly Il forbid the creation of a competitor the monopoly and will deprive la-

bor of much profitable employment. It must not be forgotten that in 1903 the Democratic party in Massachusetts eclared in favor of reciprocity with canada, and several Democratic conressmen have recently made speeches in support of that proposition. This will probably be an issue in the next campaign. The Dingley tariff act authorized the negotiation of reciprocity treaties, and President McKinley apwinted Hon. John A. Kasson of my own state special commissioner to con-met negotiations. He signed numerus conventions, all of which were submitted to the senate for ratification. Not one was ratified and because of a prevailing impression that the grand old statesman and diplomat had surrendered more than he had acquired.

In addition, a joint high commission was created in 1898 consisting originally of five representatives of this government and five from Great Britain, most of whom resided in Canada. Subsequently the commission was in-creased to six representatives of each rnment. To this commission was submitted the subject of reciprocal trade relations between the United States and Canada. This country was represented by Senator Fairbanks of Indiana as chairman; Mr. Dingley of Maine, the author of the Dingley tarif act, whose place is now filled by Mr. Payne, chairman of the committee on ways and means; Mr. John Foster, who negotiated all the reciprocity treaties under the McKinley act, and John A. Kasson, special commissioner under the Dingley act.

No agreement has yet been consummated. And why? Simply because of the Canadian attitude on the subject. she asks free trade in natural prod-ucts and offers little in return. If we permit the Canadian farmer to p his dairy products, his poultry ducts, his pork, his potatoes and hay across the lakes and the St. Lawrence river and down the Atlantic coast to supply our artisans without imposition of tariff duties, then Canada will generously consent that the farmers of the United States ship their butter, eggs, hay and potatoes

The point I wish to emphasize is this: If such men as Senator Fairbanks, Mr. Dingley, Mr. Foster and Mr. Kasson would not consent to the only terms obtainable, it raises a very strong presumption that Canada de-clined to make reciprocal reciprocity arrangements. The joint high commission is still in existence, and it is hoped that Canada will conclude to concede something to the advantage of the great mass of our people. The place to discuss the question, therefore, is

north of the forty-inith parallel.

The Democratic congressmen who have spoken in favor of Canadian reciprocity know full well that the American people will never consent to the only terms at this time obtainable, and they are making their speeches largely to cause unrest and dissatisfaction in Republican ranks. One of them represents the Fifth district of Minnesota, embracing Minneapolis, and Minheapolis is supposed to favor free trade in wheat with Canada. A prominent politician of that city recently explained to me their position. He said: "We inve built our flouring mills as large as possible unless we can have Canadian wheat. We are now shipping high priced wheat from Kansas and Okla-Unless we can have the cheaper wheat of Canada we must cease to

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expand the industry." The argument

would not be popular in Kansas.

The Democratic representative of the Eleventh district of Massachusetts has also been heard on the floor of congress in advocacy of reciprocity with Canada, and he centers his argument upon shoes, an important product of his state. The fact that Canada will not consent to the reduction of the duty on shoes is immaterial to him. If he can create a local sentiment that his party, if in power, would secure free trade in shoes with Canada, he will probably be returned. But the country at large cannot be carried on that prop osition, though certain districts may

If I were to advise the opposition I should recommend the readoption of the resolution passed in 1832 at the first Democratic national convention. It reads as follows:

Resolved. That it be recommended to the several delegations in this convention that in place of a general address from this body each delegation make such declaration, by address, report or otherwise, to its respective constituents of the objects, proceedings and result of this meeting as it may deem expedient.

Under that resolution the campaign can be localized. The manufacturers of New England can be promised free raw material, and the producers of iron in Michigan can be promised a protective tariff on ore and farmers of the northwest a tariff on wool and hides. The millers of Minneapolis can be assured cheap wheat from Canada, and the farmers can be consoled with a promise that their market shall not be disturbed. The last Democratic state platform in Massachusetts, de-claring in favor of the retention of the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments, can be made to do good service in New England. Maryland can be carried on the strength of recent utterances of the Democratic senator from that state that the Caucasian race must govern that the Caucasian race must govern, while Mississippi can be made stronger than ever by reiterating the speeches of its newly inaugurated governor that education demoralizes and criminalizes the negro. From this platform the discontented everywhere could be appealed to in language they will understand. High priced wheat and high priced cattle for the farmer and cheap meat and cheaper bread for the laborer will no longer possess a sceming inconsistency.

Correctly Apprehended.

The free trade writers of the Demo-ratic press have been jolted into activity by Congressman Dalzell's speech The New York World draws the very obvious conclusion that in consequence of this speech "the tariff must be dis-cussed." Undoubtedly. The tariff must always be discussed when, as this year, free traders are massing their forces in another attempt to dislodge protection. The New York Times calls the speech a "brutal challenge" and sees no reason to suppose that it does not represent "the dominant sentiment in the party—that is to say, a sentiment which the leaders can count on in the convention." Yea, verily, it is a challenge, a brutal challenge, if you like to call it so, and of a truth it does indeed leaders of the Republican party safely count in the convention of June 21. Why not? Democratic makers of speeches and writers of editorials have made the tariff the dominant issue practically the only issue, for 1904. Republicans accept the issue and challenge the enemy to a fight to a finish. The significance of the Dalzell speech seems to have been correctly apprehended. It is well.

Embarrassed by Friends. Friends of Judge Parker say that the connection of David B. Hill with his boom for president is injuring the chances of their favorite. Mr. Hearst is also likely to find himself in a simi-lar predicament, as some of his boomers, notably in Massachusetts and Ne

ers, notably in Massachusetts and Nebraska, may not be of great help to his candidacy.—Springfield Union.

Nature Study In Public Schools.

The grange everywhere is interested in the advancement of the public schools. The latest evidence of it is in the state of Oregon. The Oregon state grange has heartly indorsed the introduction of nature study in country schools. Last year a teacher in one of the public schools of a Portland suburb led her scholars in excursions to the woods and fields near by to study plants and insects there. This is the first time such a method of nature study has been taken up in this state, and so interesting and successful was it that many of the country schools will

take it up this fall.

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