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FREE TRADE WITH CANADA

James J. Hill Favors Free Trade With Canada and Would Construct Canal From St. Louis to New Orleans

Chicago—James J. Hill was the guest of honor at the banquet of the Merchants' club Saturday night and delivered an extended address upon "Chicago's Interest in Reciprocity with Canada."

Mr. Hill was introduced to his auditors by Charles D. Norton, president of the club, who said that Chicago in its history had survived two great calamities, the first being the great Chicago fire, and the other the fact that James J. Hill passed the city without stopping when he went to make his home in the northwest.

After outlining the commercial greatness of Chicago and giving some of the reasons therefor, Mr. Hill said:

"Today the entire country is suffering from want of transportation facilities to move its business without unreasonable delay. The prevailing idea with the public is that the railroads are short of cars, while the facts are that the shortage is in tracks and terminals to provide a greater opportunity for the movement of cars."

The speaker declared the country today faced a transportation problem which only time, patience and the expenditure of enormous sums of money will remedy. He asserted that there is a crying need now for the construction of a fifteen foot canal between St. Louis and New Orleans, and he said that the necessity for this would increase with time. There is no more important general work for the government to perform, he said, than to construct a canal capable of carrying vessels of fifteen feet draft.

Mr. Hill recited figures showing that the trade with the people whom the United States will be able to reach by the construction of the Panama canal amounts to only about \$54,500,000 annually, while our trade with Canada is over \$200,000,000 per annum. He asserted that the conversation and increase of this trade is of greater importance than anything that will accrue to the United States because of the construction of the canal.

Concerning reciprocity with Canada, Mr. Hill said:

"The plea for more liberal trade relations is negated only by unreasonable individual selfishness. The conclusive argument for reciprocity with Canada always has been and must be the experience of several American states. Had it not been prohibited by the constitution, each state of the union would have levied a duty on all commerce crossing its boundaries. Yet all acknowledge now that one great factor in the development of the United States has been the commercial elimination of state lines. Unrestrict-

ed trade between the states has favored all of them.

"Whatever commercial policy confers the greatest benefits on the whole continent will best advance the various parts and this city would receive and confer inestimable benefits under a more liberal trade convention. Canada will in any event, and under any system, be opened up and highly developed. Would it then be disadvantageous for us to share in the products of the fields of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan.

"The manufacturing interests of both countries are the first to raise an alarm, but there is no danger here. We have as much reason to dread Canadian competition as Pennsylvania has to cry for protection against North Dakota. Canada would be no more in danger than is Montana by the competition of Ohio.

"The time is opportune for a practical movement toward better trade relations with Canada. There has been increasing irritation toward our attitude and already the fact that our average tariff against the Dominion is 49.83 while that of Canada against the United States is 24.83 causes comment and suggests reprisals:

In closing, Mr. Hill said: "What is the first practical step? The consummation most to be wished is the wiping out of custom houses along the northern frontier and the establishment there of absolute free trade. If the time is not ripe for that, the least that it demands is ample reciprocity. There cannot be a beginning until we have fixed in our minds the desirability of a free interchange of natural products and raw materials, giving to the New England manufacturer his fuel and to the farmer of the western plains his lumber, and to the makers of books and newspapers everywhere their print paper free from the exactions which a needless tariff now permits monopoly to impose. From this as a beginning work may go forward toward larger liberty by an enlargement of markets and a progress of public sentiment that reciprocity once in operation will assure."

Czar Favors Universities

Berlin—Although nearly all the disturbances in Russia may be traced to college bred leaders and the government has repeatedly thought it advisable to close universities in various cities, the czar is said to be in favor of founding a second university in St. Petersburg, and several others in large cities throughout the empire.

The University of Warsaw on the other side, will be closed forever, and Polish students will have to go elsewhere to pursue their studies.

If the czar's present intentions are to be carried out an imperial commission of college professors will be sent to America to study the institutions and methods of Harvard, Yale, Princeton and the University of Chicago.

Blow at American Trusts

Paris—The operations of American trusts will be impossible in France when a bill, a present before the cham-

ber of deputies becomes a law. It will also be difficult for the stock of American corporations to be held by corporations in this country, as in England.

All foreign corporations having a branch in France will be compelled to pay ad valorem registration duty on their capital. This would be levied on the whole capital of the corporation, however small its French branch might be, at the rate of one-quarter per cent (if the present rate continues in force.)

All such companies will also have to publish their balance sheets in the Journal Official.

MILLS NOT TO OPPOSE BAILEY

Opponents of Senator, However, May Put Up Old Rival

Dallas, Texas—There is no ground for the rumor that former United States Senator Roger Q. Mills is a candidate for United States senator to succeed J. W. Bailey. Mr. Mills, old and very feeble, is living in retirement on his farm near Corsicana, and for eight years has been entirely out of politics.

The anti-Bailey issue was not involved in the election. The state convention in Dallas on August 15 unanimously nominated Bailey as the democratic candidate for United States senator and the party members of the legislature were instructed to vote for him. He was also endorsed in the state platform. Bailey's friends are confident he will receive the full party vote. Petitions, however, are being circulated for signatures, asking the legislature to defeat Bailey. No candidate has yet been agreed upon to oppose him, but the feeling is general that if one is finally taken up by the anti-Bailey opposition he will be Horace Chilton of Dallas, whom Bailey defeated six years ago.

Italian Immigrant Robbed

Peru, Ind.—While Wabash railroad express train No. 3 was standing at the station at midnight a day coach on the rear of the train in which were thirty Italian immigrants, was entered by two men who held a loaded revolver at the head of one of the foreigners standing at the door and relieved him of his watch and \$30. The robbers escaped.

Imports of Goatskins

Washington—Goatskins to the value of \$32,000,000 were imported into the United States in the fiscal year 1906, against \$10,000,000 worth a decade earlier. These figures were gathered by the bureau of statistics of the bureau of commerce and labor, and in making them public it is stated that the only important article of manufacturer's materials showing a more rapid gain in importations is pig tin. Of the importers of goatskins India is the largest contributor, having supplied \$11,000,000 worth in 1906.

Mint Director Buys Silver

Washington—The director of the mint has purchased 100,000 ounces of silver for delivery at Denver at 71.827 cents per fine ounce.

BRYAN IS OPTIMISTIC

He Reviews the Election and Sees Cause for Democratic Hopes in 1908

Commenting on the results of the recent election, W. J. Bryan gets considerable satisfaction in viewing the outcome from a democratic standpoint. He regrets the defeat of W. R. Hearst in New York, but cannot see wherein President Roosevelt can find any comfort in the vote of the Empire state. Mr. Bryan says the president's personal attack on Mr. Hearst was in very bad taste, and he insists that the attack did not favorably impress the public.

Particularly gratifying to the democratic heart, says Mr. Bryan is the return of Missouri to the democratic fold. The result in Nebraska, while somewhat disappointing in some respects, gives ground for hope.

The election of 1906 indicates a trend in favor of the democratic party. The details will be found elsewhere, but they prove that the democratic party is growing stronger as republican policies are developed. In New York the party has won a signal victory in spite of the tremendous efforts put forth in behalf of the administration. The republicans had all the support of all the great corporations, and at the close they had whatever influence the administration could lend. The fact that the democrat elected every state officer excepting the governor shows that in the Empire state the republican party has been repudiated. The defeat of Mr. Hearst, the democratic and independent candidate for governor, while a great disappointment to his friends and to the party, is explained by facts which rob Mr. Hughes' victory of both glory and political significance. Mr. McCarren, whom Mr. Hearst denounced as a boss threw his influence to Hughes and cut down Mr. Hearst's vote in Brooklyn. Mayor McClellan, the legality of whose election Mr. Hearst had denied, used his influence for Mr. Hughes and cut down the Hearst vote in New York. Mr. Jerome, the prosecuting attorney of New York, who had also been attacked by Mr. Hearst, supported the republican ticket, and his influence was felt in Greater New York. Mr. Croker, during the last days of the campaign, made an attack upon Mr. Hearst which doubtless weakened the democratic candidate among the Tammanvites. Mr. Murphy, the head of Tammany, while supporting the ticket, could not put much enthusiasm into the campaign, owing to the personal controversies which he had had with Mr. Hearst. It is evident, therefore, that Mr. Hughes owes his victory not to republican votes but to democratic votes brought to him by the very men whom he and the republican leaders have been denouncing for years.

President Roosevelt cannot find very much cause for rejoicing in the