

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B. NOVEMBER 8, 1902.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH
Is published every Wednesday and Saturday at \$1.00 a year, in advance, by The Telegraph Publishing Company, St. John, N. B. Incorporated by act of the Legislature of New Brunswick.

ADVERTISING RATES.
Ordinary commercial advertisements taking the run of the paper. Each insertion \$1.00 per line.
Advertisements of Wants, For Sale, etc., 50 cents for insertion of six lines or less. Notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths 25 cents for each insertion.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
All remittances should be sent by post or by order or registered letter and addressed to The Telegraph Publishing Company, St. John, N. B. Correspondence should be addressed to the Editor of The Telegraph, St. John, N. B. All subscriptions should be without exception, be paid for in advance.

AUTHORIZED AGENTS.
The following agents are authorized to canvass and collect for The Semi-Weekly Telegraph, viz.:
Wm. Somerville,
W. A. Ferris.

Subscribers are asked to pay their subscriptions to the agents when they call.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph
ST. JOHN, N. B., NOVEMBER 8, 1902.

THE ELECTIONS.
Although the politicians of both parties claimed a victory at an early hour this morning the indications are that the Republicans will control the House of Representatives by a small majority, and that the Democrats gain throughout the country have been greater than were expected even in an off year.

New York state re-elects its Republican governor—Odell—by a narrow squeak in spite of the fact that Coler carried Greater New York by more than 120,000, or 8,000 more than this even enthusiastic Democrats prophesied he would have. The vote up the state was rather light, but Odell's strength in the country districts proved so great as to nullify Coler's magnificent showing in the metropolis. Hill evidently was of little use to the Democrats in the state. Had he been able to make any head against the Republican canvass the great pivotal state must have gone Democratic.

The result in New York city will startle the country. It is a rebuke to Seth Low, the so-called fusion mayor, and will go far to disturb that gentleman's self-satisfaction. It shows how Tammany can work in an off year if its leaders are in earnest, and what the Democrats might do in a presidential year if the party united on a sound leader.

Democratic gains outside of New York were not remarkable, but the result can not but be embarrassing to their opponents, and will give the party of Grover Cleveland new courage for the great battle of 1904.

Gaston, the Democratic nominee in Massachusetts, put up a good fight, but Bates beat him out with a diminished majority. In Pennsylvania, despite the coal strike, the Republicans carried every thing in sight. That state is hopeless for the Democratic standpoint.

Not until the doubtful districts report today can the strength of the parties in the House of Representatives be given accurately, but early this morning it seemed that the Republicans had lost from 30 to 55 of their majority of 43.

There will be some tariff tinkering soon.

MULOCK.
There has been a very significant silence on the part of the Tory press upon the announcement of Sir William Mulock that the post-office department would have a surplus of more than \$5,000, exclusive of the Yukon and Athin service for the past fiscal year.

This is the first time in the history of the Canadian post office department that a minister has succeeded in making the revenue of the department pay its expenditure.

In view of these conditions, a retrospective glance at the record of the Tory administration may not be amiss at this time. For the eight years ending June 30 1896, the deficits of the post office department amounted to nearly \$6,000,000, or an average of over \$700,000 annually for those years.

While the late Tory government was in power, various associations urged it to reduce the rate of postage on letters with in Canada and to the United States from three to two cents, but owing to the gross mismanagement of the department by the Tory administrators, the ever recurring deficits threw such a dark cloud over the future that the government was compelled to refuse the request for a reduction in the postal rate.

Sir Adolphe Caron, postmaster-general, in his annual report for 1893 dealt as follows with the proposal for a reduction of the rate:

Whilst the department is thus being assailed on one hand by those who consider that its revenue and expenditure should be more nearly equalized, it is at the same time being urged to reduce its two cents an ounce the postage on letters, the inevitable result of which would be so large a reduction in the revenue, and as a necessary consequence so vast a discrepancy between the revenue and expenditure, as to materially cripple the operations of the department for years to come. That this is no mere hasty asser-

tion, unsupported by facts, may at once be demonstrated. The lowest estimate of the effect of a reduction to two cents in the rate of postage is a loss of revenue of at least \$750,000, which, even if postage on newspapers were reimposed, by which an additional revenue of \$100,000 would be obtained, would still leave a deficiency of \$650,000, which, added to the present amount, would make \$1,250,000 a year to be provided by parliament over and above the revenue, and what postmaster-general could be expected in the face of such a deficiency to entertain propositions for additional expenditures to improve the service, however necessary they might appear?

In the last budget speech of Hon. George E. Foster, reported in the Hansard for 1896, referring to the request for a reduction upon the rates of postage, he said:

There is now a deficit of somewhere near \$800,000 between the total receipts and total expenditures of our post office service; and this, I fear, makes the time somewhat distant when what otherwise might be fairly asked for can be granted—that is, a reduction upon the rates of postage in this country.

This was the position of the post office department when Sir William Mulock undertook its administration.

In his first year he succeeded in reducing the deficit to \$688,540, and in the following year it was further reduced to \$47,002. This was accomplished largely by the economic administration of the department, and particularly by the cancellation of many mail contracts which the Tory government had given to favorites at two, three and four prices, without competition.

When Sir William Mulock brought forward his proposal for a reduction of the rate of postage from three to two cents, he said that there would be a deficit for about three years and then equilibrium would be established, and the postal service would pay its way. The Tory opposition in parliament ridiculed the statement of the postmaster-general. At the beginning of the year 1899 the postage rates on domestic letters and to the United States was reduced from three to two cents, and the rate of five cents to Britain and the colonies was reduced to two cents.

Shortly after the reduction, Sir Charles Tupper and other Tories denounced the reduction and declared that it meant an annual deficit for the department of one million dollars per annum. As anticipated by Sir William Mulock, there were annual deficits until this year, when he is in a position to announce to the people of this country that for the first time in the history of Canada, the postal service has paid its own way exclusive of the Athin and Yukon.

During the period that the Liberal government has been in power the efficiency of the department has been improved steadily. There has been an increase of 844 post offices, and an increase of 4,461,109 miles in the mileage that the mails have been carried. The number of post office saving banks has been increased by 290, or 84 per cent., the number of money order offices increased by 73, or 674 per cent., and the establishment of the postal note system with 4,936 offices has been effected. These, with the reduction of the postage rate, are some of the things which Sir William Mulock has accomplished during his six years tenure of office.

The Tories saw nothing but million dollar deficits as a result of his proposed progressive economic policy. Sir William has destroyed another prophecy of that party of false prophets, and the people of Canada are glad to hear that the post office department is able to make both ends meet, and in no way impair its efficiency.

THE GROWING PRESTIGE OF BRITISH DIPLOMACY.

Diplomacy is becoming simpler in form. The idea that language was intended to conceal the diplomat's thoughts is an old one. It has served. There has arisen a new school of diplomats, and Britain leads it. It is, primarily, a school which has weighed conditions, and which is guided at the Court of France and at that of Germany, Russia and Italy more by what evidence of power it can actually produce than by what it may hint or fore shadow. It is the diplomacy backed by achievement, and achievement to come. It weighs heavy in the scale.

Gentle diplomats of the Latin school have referred to the British diplomat as brutally direct. It is, rather, intelligently direct, since it marks the policy of men who tell, without concealment, the strength they have at their back—and mean what they say. They do not show all of it. But they indicate the force behind.

So now we read:

English diplomacy is every once in a

while accused of lumbering immobility, lack of insight and imagination and all the other failings of which diplomacy may be guilty, but at the end of all the disparagement it generally emerges with some good treaty or profitable convention in its pocket to the chagrin of sister nations and the silencing for a time of home critics.

The treaty with China is the latest triumph of this kind and following on the Anglo-Japanese understanding it distinctly strengthens Britain in the far East.

These are the views of a critic who has weighed nations, politics, and methods. He puts his finger instantly upon the important point—results. Britain gets them. Linked with Japan, and having an unwritten but virtually binding Anglo-Saxon agreement to defend upon, she presents a naval front which gives pause to allied Europe and the world.

It may be all very well to carp at Britain's diplomacy, but when we look at the results obtained, we may be sure at least, that the English can laugh at criticism if it be of the order referred to. Britain's fleet made European intervention, and American intervention, in the Boer war out of the question. The solidification of the empire makes such interference more than ever unlikely. And British direct diplomacy gains weight accordingly.

A PLEDGE-SIGNING CRUSADE.
It will be interesting to note the result of the great concerted temperance movement now afoot. Total abstinence throughout Great Britain, Canada and the United States are now preparing for the greatest pledge-signing crusade they have ever undertaken.

It will be inaugurated on November 23 (Temperance Sunday), and is the result of six months' study and preparation. The committee for Great Britain and Canada is headed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, with the following membership: Bishop Beardsley, Carlisle; Canon Farrar, D.D., F.R.S.; Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Bt., D.D.; W. S. Cairns, M.P., London; P. S. Spencer, Toronto.

In a circular issued by the general of the crusade the following stirring words are used: "It does seem to this committee that under the dome of the sky God is now striking the hour for his people to open a new and vigorous campaign against the most odious evil that plagues the world. No time is to be lost. Therefore, in the interests of humanity and for the honor of the Christian religion, in the name of God they plead for an uprising and union of the religious and moral forces of the nation."

The leaders ask for a "simultaneous revival in all the churches of the English-speaking world on Sunday, November 23, 1902, in inaugurating a crusade against the use of intoxicating drinks through the instrumentalities of pledge-signing by old and young, by the weak, because they need protection, and by the strong, who, in gratitude for their strength, are willing to be helpful to their weaker brethren."

REFERRED TO THE CORONER.

Within a month the St. John Sun has announced:—

(1) That New Brunswick is in revolt against the present local government, and that there is a chance of opposition success.

(2) That the retirement of Mr. Tarte, and the circumstances attending it, have wrecked the Liberal party.

(3) That the principles applied by J. Pierpont Morgan to transatlantic steamship traffic are applicable to St. John river transportation, and that the chief need of the people living along the St. John is a fast, "luxurious" steamer, "with a small army of officers and employees."

(4) That Mr. Borden is a great leader.

(5) That the Sun is a newspaper worthy of serious consideration as such.

It has made other equally vain and foolish assertions, but the foregoing will serve for present purposes.

There is such a person as the incurable Tory. It is possible that men of that type have followed the Sun's editorial and news policy with admiration and interest. It is possible, but it is not probable.

But what does the average newspaper reader, who wants the news and knows what is going on in the world, think of the announcements referred to?

And what do the average newspaper reader, and the advertisers, think of the editorial and news policy of the Sun?

There have been changes in the newspaper business in St. John. The tendency is forward. The men directing the Sun have not awakened to the fact that the newspaper-reading public does not stand where it stood forty years ago. A newspaper which does not recognize the change in conditions is an interesting subject for a post-mortem, but it is not read extensively.

A PECULIAR PROCEEDING.
The Telegraph is informed from a reliable source that a collector is now making the rounds of the province gathering subscriptions for the Frederick Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb. The fact that this institution is at present on trial on most serious charges, and has closed its doors to its scholars, would seem to be sufficient reason why no further money should be collected from the public until the Royal Commission shall have made its report.

If anything further were necessary, it would appear that the refusal of the auditor general to pay over public monies to the officials of the school while the investigation is unfinished, would furnish a good and sufficient reason why the public should refuse to continue the voluntary contributions.

The Telegraph has refrained from any

further criticism of the institution in question and its management while the charges preferred by this newspaper were under judgment. The same reason should have prevented any attempt on the part of the school officials from collecting funds. No words are too strong to denounce such a course on their part.

Mildly speaking it might be described as an