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THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH
THE EVENING TIMES
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These newspapers advocate British connection
Honour in public life
Measures for the material progress and moral advancement of our great Dominion.
No fault!
No fault!
"The Little Shamrock, Rosebud, The Maple Leaf, etc."

Semi-Weekly Telegraph
and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., JULY 19, 1913.

THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY AND THE REPUBLICANS.

There has been much talk of a merger and amalgamation of the Republican party in the United States and the new Progressive forces, but the opposition to it on both sides is very determined. The only really strong argument in favor of a union of the two parties is the hope of winning elections. According to the present outlook, if they do not draw together, the business of legislation and of governing will fall to the Democrats for years to come. This is not attractive to those whose first desire is office and power, so many in both parties strongly support the proposed merger. But there are lions in the way. The broad and deep-laying principles which created the Progressive party and which gave it its life and strength are not accepted but opposed by the Republicans. Indeed most of the old party leaders are violently opposed to the social and industrial section of the Progressive party's platform. The Progressives cannot drop this part of their programme for it is their chief stock in trade. They have promised to have the vast industrial organizations do the people's work instead of letting them exploit the people. They would state definitely just what business practices are lawful, and they would punish violations by prison sentences, and perhaps most important of all, they would create a new arm of government, similar to the Interstate Commerce Commission, to regulate and control the giant business organizations in the interests of the people. The Republican party would need to be horn and reconstructed from the head downwards or from the feet upwards before it could undertake any such activities. They are entirely foreign to its nature and to its history. It has always stood for special privilege. Its first duty has been to see that no obstacle was placed in the way of those organizations taking the people who would contribute to its funds. There is apparently an irreconcilable difference between the two parties. The Progressives would approach all legislation from the human point of view. Nothing short of a succession of miracles would induce the Republicans to approach legislation from any such standpoint.

But it is the Progressive point of view that will ultimately prevail. The individual is of more value than the machine. It is more important that a country should produce strong and healthy men and women working under clean and wholesome conditions than that a few interests should declare heavy dividends and contribute freely to party funds. The Progressives have a work to perform. The birth of the party was a protest against the sinister forces that had secured the control of government in state and city and country, and its continuance as a definite political machine is the best promise the country can have that the reforms will ultimately be brought about. That the reforms are needed, the recent revelations in New York regarding the practices, not of child labor only but of baby labor, enforces with new emphasis. Dr. Daniel's testimony in New York City was confirmed by many others, was to the effect that children of from four to seven and nine years of age were often forced to work as late as half-past ten at night on paper flowers. A single

trade, that of embroidery, employs in New York, 80,000 home workers, half of them children. Conditions in this particular are worse in the United States than in any other country in the world. It is asserted on the best authority that there are 20,000 defective children in New York, largely the direct result of the overwork and overstrain to which the mothers are subjected in the factories. Dr. Max Schaff, in discussing this matter says, "The women in industry have offspring who are nervous, say. They grow up and resort to some drug to quiet themselves. Their offspring are feeble-minded." It is a great deal more important that children should grow into normal and wholesome life, with a fair chance for health and strength, than that industries should make large profits because of their employment. The Progressive party has a work to do as a separate and distinct organization. It proposes a comprehensive programme of social and industrial reform and it has enlisted many of the most serious and enthusiastic reformers throughout the nation under its banner. At present it is carrying on the work of organization in the different states without hope of merger. Where there is utter disagreement in politics and principles nothing like a merger is impossible to sincere and thoughtful men.

A BIG "LITTLE WAR"

Although press despatches say that Bulgaria is asking the European Powers to arrange peace in the Balkans, no one can foretell how events will shape themselves, as Romania's plans to invade Bulgaria have brought a new factor into the problem.

Each day's despatches add to the horrible tale of butchery in the Balkan States. We read of 15,000 men killed and wounded here and of 20,000 casualties there, and the wonder grows how long will there be left non-combatants to make good the losses in the armies of these pugnacious little nations. By the latest census Bulgaria had 4,837,516 inhabitants, Serbia 2,911,701 and Greece 2,681,859. All these enumerations were taken before the war with Turkey. In that war Bulgaria admits having sustained casualties of exhausting proportions, the list being headed by 81,000 killed or mortally wounded; and Serbia and Greece are known to have lost heavily. If the Powers will simply let will cease to be a menace to the peace of Europe; and the hatred engendered by this war, added to the animosities already existing, will make their co-operation in the future impossible or of little account. In falling out among themselves they have played into the hands of their enemies. Austria, especially, notes with glee that all danger of a powerful confederacy of Balkan States is over.

It is not precisely the unexpected that has happened in the Balkans, for there were many forebodings that the Allies would come to blows over the division of the spoils. When trouble with Turkey began, King Ferdinand of Bulgaria described the coming campaign as "a war of the Cross against the Crescent," and it was feared, not without reason, that the gates had been opened to the worst features of religious fanaticism and pitiless savagery. The Bulgarian solicitude which had been so copiously expressed for the oppressed Christians of Macedonia, deceived nobody. It was recognized that the motives of the Bulgarians from start to finish were revenge and greed of territory. For all the parties to it the war was one of conquest, pure and simple, and that fact was bound to make the final distribution of territory between the victors a highly difficult undertaking. As a result, the dogs of war are once more unleashed, and indiscriminate slaughter is again under way.

Last year's secret treaty among the Balkan allies providing for the reference of disputed questions to the arbitration of the Czar of Russia, is deliberately ignored. The Czar himself has apparently chosen to forget his definite assurance of a few weeks ago that he would arbitrate by force if not allowed to do so otherwise; but the news from Sofia that the pro-Russian French had been retained in office by the Bulgarian ruler despite Austria's bitter protest, may explain his desire to let the deed wait on the word.

It is this failure to observe treaties and to keep promises, and the lack of a consistent policy, that makes arbitration among these petty nations of the Near East so difficult. As it now stands, the quarrel presents one of the saddest, as well as one of the most serious, international situations which the present century has witnessed. There have been rumors that Turkey may come to terms with Bulgaria. While that seems unlikely, there is no doubt that it would be a formidable combination, not merely as against Serbia and Greece, but as against any European interference. It is not altogether a visionary scheme and would fit to a nicety with the opportunist policy of Bulgaria. The mere suggestion of it shows in what deep confusion the whole Balkan question is involved. Meanwhile, the Powers seem to be doing the right thing in playing a waiting game. Bulgaria must now have had enough fighting, and will be in no position to refuse a reasonable settlement. It must be that or more fighting, and "woe to the conquered."

MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE SCHOOLS.

About three years ago all the boys sent to the truancy school in New York were examined and physical defects calculated to interfere with the child's power to learn and observe school discipline were found in every case. A very large proportion of backward, dull and refractory pupils are victims of

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A COMPARISON.

The Conservative Ottawa Citizen praises Australia for its independence in many matters as compared with Canada. The principal Conservative newspaper of Ottawa said recently: "But in the Eastern provinces of Canada there is yet a strange impression that loyalty to the empire can best be shown by lying down on the path of progress and hanging on to the things

and the ways of the past. The Australian Commonwealth, has developed a spirit of healthy independence which is wholly in accord with Imperial unity, yet which commands respect both at home and abroad. Australia shows that it is possible to be radical and sane, to be progressive and patriotic, and to develop one's own national character and life without the least danger to the bond that binds the scattered segments into the circle of Imperial unity."

The St. John Standard, which is not so independent as the Citizen, contents itself with asserting that the Canadian Liberals have not done so well in naval matters as Australia. But Australia is carrying out the Imperial defence programme agreed upon in 1910 between Australia, New Zealand and Canada. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his government, however, have carried out their share of the programme but for their defeat in 1911. Then came Mr. Borden, who proposed a policy of tribute. The Ottawa Citizen says that the Australian policy commands respect both at home and abroad. Mr. Borden's policy—no one yet knows what it is except that it is an "emergency" policy and that the "emergency" is an exceedingly quiet one at present.

It is to be regretted, however, that the Standard in dealing with these matters did not explain why the Minister of Marine—who is also Mr. Borden's naval minister—did not accept the tender of the Cammell Laird Company for the construction of the Canadian naval ships at St. John. The Standard complains that the Liberals did not get these ships built, but they would have had them built if they had remained in power. As they went out of power they could not build the ships, but they left for their successors the tenders of prominent and reliable British shipbuilding firms, and the lowest tender was that of the Cammell Laird Company, which had selected St. John as the place best fitted for a naval shipbuilding yard. Mr. Haas declined this tender and returned the deposit made by the company. Thus he shut the door against building the ships. It is true that Canada has not built any naval vessels, but the fault is not with the Liberal party but with the Conservative government, and especially with the naval minister who rejected the tender which would have resulted in the construction of these ships at the port of St. John.

PROTECTING THE POOR.

The Boston city council has decided to establish a municipal ice plant so that persons in the tenement districts may obtain ice at reasonable rates. Next winter, if necessary, it plans to have a municipal coal yard. Last year when Boston undertook to supply the poor people of the city with coal at equitable rates, the Supreme Court of Massachusetts gave a decision restraining the city from going into the coal business. It would probably give a similar decision with respect to ice; but Mayor Fitzgerald and his colleagues propose to ask the Legislature for permission to conduct in future any such business in the interests of the citizen.

By the way, want there considerable talk of establishing a municipal coal yard in St. John last winter? Nothing came of it, and hundreds of people who could ill afford to do so were forced to pay very high prices for coal next winter, although there seems to be no good reason why prices should not be much lower than they were last year. Toronto and Montreal are threatening to establish fuel yards to compete with the coal barons in case the price fixed is excessive, and many other cities are discussing the merits of the scheme.

THE OPEN DOOR.

Here follows a letter from Mayor Roth, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in reply to inquiry by The Telegraph concerning the methods of transacting public business under the commission plan in that city:

Cedar Rapids, Iowa,
July 12, 1913.
Dear Sir:—
In reply to yours of the 8th inst. regarding the meeting of the Commissioners will say that the Cedar Rapids council meets regularly Mondays and Fridays at 10 a. m. and that each commissioner aims to have everything to be acted upon in concrete form. These meetings are public, and the newspaper men are always in the room. Says the Globe: "Informally on call of the Mayor whenever matters of importance need to be discussed. These meetings are not secret are not public. Special meetings are held whenever the business of the city requires it. These meetings are public as newspaper men are notified in time to be present."

Trusting this will answer your inquiry, I am,
Very truly yours,
LOUIS ROTH,
Mayor.

This letter should be useful to those who are willing to give calm and thoughtful consideration to the question now under discussion in St. John, as to whether or not public business should be transacted in public.

In connection with Mayor Roth's letter, it will, perhaps, be well to publish here a few extracts from the legislation governing procedure of the Cedar Rapids commissioners:

24. Council Meetings. 1.—The time for holding regular meetings of the City Council of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is hereby fixed on the second Monday of each month at 10 o'clock a. m. of said day, and it shall continue in said regular session so long, and from day to day if need be, as the business of the city may require.
2.—Special Meetings. 2.—Special meetings may be called from time to time by the Mayor or two Councilmen.
3.—Presiding Officer. 3.—The

Mayor of the city shall preside at all meetings of the Council at which he is in attendance and in his absence the Superintendent of the Department of Accounts and Finance shall preside.

27. Quorum. 4.—A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of three (3) members of the Council.

28. Vote Required for Passage of Any Measure. 5.—The affirmative vote of three (3) members shall be necessary to adopt any motion, resolution or ordinance, or to pass any measure unless a greater number is required by the laws of Iowa.

29. Yea and Nay Vote. 6.—Upon every vote, the yea, and nay shall be called and recorded and every motion, resolution or ordinance shall be reduced to writing and read before the vote is taken thereon.

Next May, St. John will be electing a Mayor and two commissioners. Before election day comes around it will be necessary to have it made known whether or not candidates who may then appeal to the taxpayers for support are in favor of the present closed meeting or propose to insist upon the open door method. The real point in the open door seems not to be fully appreciated, or really understood, by some who have discussed the matter. There is no reason why any citizen should not visit and confer with any commissioner in private in the commissioner's office. There is no reason why the private over matters the public discussion of which would injure the city in a legal sense or financially. These exceptions should be clearly defined and the interpretation of them ought not to be strained. But when the ordinary business of the day is being discussed and decisions concerning it arrived at by discussion, the discussion should be public. In this way the public and all interests involved, are made acquainted with the trend and progress of affairs at City Hall before the Mayor and commissioners have committed the city to any course of action. Under the present scheme the public Council meetings have become, to a great extent, meetings merely for the formal adoption or rejection of business done in private by the commissioners. Moreover, the statements usually handed after private committee meetings to the press can in no sense be regarded as a satisfactory substitute for the report of such meetings which the newspapers would themselves make in their capacity as representatives of the public if such meetings were open to the public and the press as they should be.

Consideration of these questions ought not to be construed as an attack upon commission government, or upon the commissioners personally. On the other hand, it is necessary that the public should think about and form an intelligent conclusion regarding this question in order that it may be settled, and settled right. The commission idea aims at a great measure of publicity, even though publicity sometimes has awkward features. There are many matters which it is more convenient to discuss in private; but since the discussion of public business must be assumed to be for the benefit of all concerned; that is, for the benefit of all the taxpayers, publicity is necessary in order that every interest affected may have early and complete intelligence as to what is proposed or is transpiring. The proper thing to do is to keep the door open at meetings where public business is being discussed except in those cases specifically excepted by the law creating commission government in St. John.

NOTE AND COMMENT.
Is St. John the only city in Canada where the weather is ideal?
Meanwhile, it is possible that Turkey is warming up another pitcher.

The Municipal Council is doing good work in connection with the General Public Hospital plans and deserves strong public commendation.

The German Socialists have won another seat from the Free Conservatives. Socialism in Germany is steadily making gains, but it is monarchical Socialism.

Sooner or later we must come to quick change clothing in this country—that is, provided the weather man doesn't sober up and be steady.—Ottawa Free Press.

Lost, strayed or stolen: the Japanese war scare—Portland Argus.

Perhaps it has been decided to let it wait, along with Mr. Borden's "emergency."

Every man is either a fool or a philosopher, more or less, says a New York Sun correspondent. Certainly, mankind is succinctly classified by that philosopher.

County Councillor McLellan has done a praiseworthy thing in having the motion for the giving of an option on the Municipal Home rescinded. The vote was unanimous.

United States immigration officials say that during the last five years, 2,600,000 immigrants have left for their former homes in Europe. A great majority of these were men of the working class.

Who are the men responsible for the condition of the Loch Lomond road? A great number of people would like to have their names and addresses. Any information on the subject will be welcome.

A news despatch says that war has been resumed on Cabin Creek, West Virginia. In getting into shape again, West Virginia seems determined to share public attention with Mexico and the Balkans.

The fact that Mrs. Wilson is an artist of considerable reputation does not prevent the President of the United States from objecting strenuously to the action of the Senate in imposing a tariff duty on works of art.

THE NEWS.

The average citizen does not know much about the details of newspaper production. In describing the new building and plant of the Manitoba Free Press which that great journal has just begun to use, the writer was struck by the great extent of complicated machinery and the large number of persons involved in preparing and printing a daily newspaper under modern conditions. He wrote:

"The average individual who reads the paper over the breakfast table and again in the evening, occasionally noticing some slight error, has but a small idea of the number of people it took in every corner of the earth, each of whom has some share in its issue, to get out that paper; the number of times each sheet of 'copy' was read, how it finally reached the man sitting in front of a machine with a keyboard like a typewriter, but which instead of turning out sheets of paper turns out 'slugs' of lead, each slug on one edge bearing the imprint of a line of type. He does not know that from the lead type, tightly locked up in an iron frame a paper mache casting was taken, not that from this sheet of paper mache a semi-circular lead casting was made which eventually finds its place on one of the many cylinders of a huge press and from which the finished product is at last printed."

It should be useful to place this knowledge before newspaper readers, not an excuse for the mistakes which newspapers sometimes make, and not to place the man who complains when his name is misspelled or when his paper is delivered late, but for the purpose of bringing to the attention of the public some of the inside conditions attending the production of a daily journal. In the old days of hand composition and small circulations the publisher had many difficulties to contend with, and as a rule the resources at his command, mechanical and financial, were not great. The business is much more complicated in these days, but fortunately rapid progress in the matter of presses and linotype machines has enabled the publisher to respond to the demands of the day with at least a reasonable degree of efficiency. The newspaper man of today hears occasionally from those interested in his welfare how much better newspapers they used to print twenty-five or fifty years ago. No doubt the newspapers of those days were better in some ways, but perhaps few would care to undertake to sell them in competition with the modest journals of the home and foreign produced by the present generation of newspaper workers great as are their short comings.

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a direct result of their apathy. The explanation given by a large number of the women who did not vote was that they feared some of the wealthier women planned to go to the polls in gowns the others could not rival. There is something at once humorous and pathetic in that explanation.

W. J. Bryan, Secretary of State in the United States, says he cannot live on his salary of \$12,000 a year. There were many other very competent men in the Democratic ranks who were quite willing to take the job at that pay.

What is to be done with the endowment in the open car? In several cities an effort is being made to compel him to move along. In St. John he sometimes does move along, but his example seldom influences the passenger who takes his place.

If the Municipal Council deals in a progressive way with the General Public Hospital at its continued session today it will do a good day's work. It will be of no use to patch up and enlarge the old building. Now is the time to adopt and push forward a new and comprehensive plan of building and harmonious development. It will be money well spent.

HIGHWAY IS IN DANGEROUS CONDITION
Farmers and Others Complain of the Road to Loch Lomond
Three Things They Want to Know
So Far, However, They Have Been Unable to Get Any Information in Regard to Amount of Money Available for Repairs or How It is Being Handled.

Tuesday, July 15.
While roads all over the province are in very bad condition, farmers and others are especially complaining of some of the highways in the immediate vicinity of St. John. Those who have occasion to use the Loch Lomond road are most outspoken in their criticism of it, particularly with respect to that section between Kane's Corner and the Ben Lomond House. They declare that the road is in a disgraceful condition and, in places, positively dangerous; and they are asking:
What interest is more directly responsible for the Loch Lomond road?
How much money is available for that part of the highway?
Several persons say they have been unable to get any information in answer to these questions. Under the new road act they are supposed to be parish supervisors and a county inspector responsible to a provincial road engineer. So far no engineer has been appointed, and the public announcement has been made of county inspectors, although in some parishes friends of the government have been selected as road supervisors.

One man said yesterday that as so many complaints had been made about the Loch Lomond road he had written to the chief commissioner of public works, asking him what superior had been appointed for that district, and if any inspector for St. John county had been named. "That was some time ago," he said, "and I have not yet received any reply. The Loch Lomond road is a most important avenue for city traffic and I cannot understand why it is being so neglected."

The Telegraph yesterday asked several men living along the Loch Lomond road and others who are close to the government, asking him what superior had been appointed for that district, and if any inspector for St. John county had been named. "That was some time ago," he said, "and I have not yet received any reply. The Loch Lomond road is a most important avenue for city traffic and I cannot understand why it is being so neglected."

County Councillor McLellan has done a praiseworthy thing in having the motion for the giving of an option on the Municipal Home rescinded. The vote was unanimous.

United States immigration officials say that during the last five years, 2,600,000 immigrants have left for their former homes in Europe. A great majority of these were men of the working class.

Who are the men responsible for the condition of the Loch Lomond road? A great number of people would like to have their names and addresses. Any information on the subject will be welcome.

A news despatch says that war has been resumed on Cabin Creek, West Virginia. In getting into shape again, West Virginia seems determined to share public attention with Mexico and the Balkans.

The fact that Mrs. Wilson is an artist of considerable reputation does not prevent the President of the United States from objecting strenuously to the action of the Senate in imposing a tariff duty on works of art.

Hereafter, knowing how to swim will be a requisite in entering the United States navy. Swimming exercises are now compulsory and commissions will be withheld from midshipmen who fail to meet the requirements.

After a long hard fight for recognition at the polls, the women of Illinois were given the right to vote, but not enough of them turned out for a special election in Geneva (Ill.), last Saturday to carry the public kindergarten measure urged by clubwomen, the defeat of which was