

TRouble FEARED. Lumbermen Anxious About River Conditions. Forty Millions of Feet of Logs Are Lying Between Fredericton and Seven Islands and May Run Out at Any Time.

Lumbermen, not only in St. John, but all along the river are seriously worrying over the probability of a catastrophe in handling logs compared to which that of two seasons ago will in some respects be of minor importance. In order to prepare for whatever conditions may arise, the lumbermen held a meeting yesterday forenoon and decided to do at once everything which will tend to lessen the probable loss.

At the meeting held yesterday morning it was decided to notify all persons living along the river of the threatening danger and to ask them to assist in the province towns the gas used here ranks lowest. In Fredericton the highest average candle power was 18.18 and the lowest 16.01; Moncton, highest 21.70, lowest 16.49; Halifax, highest 18.53, lowest 16.25; Pictou, highest 18.90, lowest 17.21; Yarmouth, highest 18.12, lowest 17.70; and Charlottetown, highest 21.44, lowest 16.90. In St. John the highest was 18.93 and the lowest 16.42.

Mills Supplies. Belting, Red Strip Rubber, Goodhues' Leather, Milo Canvas, Jenkins' Genuine Valves, Files, Waste, Saws, Oils, Packing, Emery Wheels. WRITE FOR PRICES TO W.H. Thorne & Co., Ltd. Market Square, St. John.

VERY POOR GAS. Many Complaints Made About What is Supplied in St. John. The corporation which supplies gas light to the city of St. John exacts almost the highest prices paid in Canada, and furnishes about the poorest gas that is supplied in any city of the size of St. John in the Dominion.

The corporation which supplies gas light to the city of St. John exacts almost the highest prices paid in Canada, and furnishes about the poorest gas that is supplied in any city of the size of St. John in the Dominion. In Montreal there is an agitation for 75 cent gas, and the prices now paid in Montreal and Toronto are little more than half the charge here. The quarterly gas bill rendered in St. John would seem to be high if the gas were good, but \$1.85 per thousand, with 10 cents off for cash, is held to be too steep for gas that gives a candle power as close to the minimum standard as the law allows. In keeping close to the dead line the company passed it twice last year, or rather there were two occasions when the official readings found the standard too high for the light. Various unofficial readings, reported by persons who tried to read books by gas light, indicate many more than two lapses. Out of 44 cities and towns in Canada enumerated in the official reports only three were better than St. John in the matter of the size of the gas bills as this year. There is a fair chance that if some account is not taken to improve the quality of the light, and to reduce the cost, an agitation for municipal ownership will arise and prevail.

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P. E. ISLAND LIQUOR DEALER. Who for Some Time Has Been Seriously Ill. Promises, if He Recovers, to Retire Permanently from Business—A Breezy Lot of News from the Ice-bound Province.

CHARLOTTETOWN, March 7.—One of the most important industries in this province is that of dairying. In it our farmers are generally engaged, and together with the supplementary revenue derived from the hog industry, it forms a large share of our receipts. Last year there were manufactured in this province 2,729,556 pounds of cheese, net value, \$220,709. The milk received for these manufactures was 29,589,822 pounds. From 12,587,979 pounds of milk there were manufactured 555,547 pounds of butter, net value, \$87,707. Last summer was a very favorable year for dairying as pasturage was usually short and corn and root crops were almost a failure. The above results, then, under the circumstances, are gratifying to all.

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THE TROUBLE BEGINS. The Fourth Session of the Ninth Parliament Opened Yesterday. Mr. Belcourt, Member for Ottawa, Chosen Speaker—Announcement of Dr. Daniel's Election Received With Great Applause—Quite a Fashionable Attendance at the Ceremonies.

OTTAWA, March 10.—The commons this afternoon elected as its speaker for the remainder of the present parliament N. A. Belcourt of Ottawa. There was a good presentation of members on both sides when shortly after three o'clock, Colonel Smith, sergeant-at-arms, brought in the message. The speaker's chair was vacant and the only man who seemed to be in authority along with the sergeant was Mr. Flint, the clerk, who occupied his usual place at the head of the table immediately in front of the speaker's dais. The commoners waited in expectancy for the arrival of black rod. The three loud raps were given, Col. Smith grabbed the mace and went to investigate the noise. Having satisfied himself upon the point, the sergeant faced around and informed Mr. Flint that a messenger was in waiting from his honor the lieutenant governor.

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CHAMBERLAIN Forces Balfour to Back Down. He Controls the Situation and the Premier Evades an Important Issue.

LONDON, March 9.—During the discussion of the army estimates in the house of commons tonight Premier Balfour said that so long as the army home defences were maintained in an adequate condition any invasion of this country by an organized force capable of reducing it to submission was merely a dream. But no man could blind himself to the fact that circumstances in the East were making Great Britain's great continental power, contentions with another great military power and these circumstances must be taken into account in framing the British army estimates.

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FASTER THAN FOSTER. Prisoners in Yarmouth Capture a Companion Who Tried to Escape.

HALIFAX, March 10.—While at work in the jail yard at Yarmouth, William Foster, cook of the Lurcher Lightship, imprisoned for stealing sheep, broke away, climbed the fence, and ran away. Other prisoners worked with him and he was chased and half a mile down the road caught him and brought him back.

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DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF. Internal Dissension in the Sydney and Glace Bay Railway Co.

HALIFAX, March 9.—Different interests in the Sydney and Glace Bay Railway Co. are at loggerheads. The Dominion Coal Company's interests have brought an action in the name of the Sydney and Glace Bay Co. It appears that no authority was ever given by the stockholders or the directors for the action to be brought in the name of the company, and as the directors are two and two, and the stock is equally held, a motion was made by the Boston interests to strike out the name of the Sydney and Glace Bay Co. as plaintiff for the reason that it was used without authority.

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