

The Standard



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TELEPHONE CALLS:
Business Office Main 1723
Editorial and News Main 1746

Chicago Representative:
Henry DeClerque, 701-702 Schiller Building,
New York Office.
L. Klebahn, Manager, 1 West 34th Street.

SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY MORNING, SEPT. 16, 1910.

MARITIME REPRESENTATION.

The decision at the conference of representatives of the three governments of the Maritime Provinces in favor of an amendment to the British North America Act to provide that "the representation of all the provinces should not fall below the number had by each province at the time of its entrance into the confederation," foreshadows a renewal of the strenuous protest which the provinces have made on more than one occasion against the diminution of their representation in the House of Commons since the act of union.

As is well known, the British North America Act provides that, after each decennial census the population of Quebec is divided by sixty-five in order to ascertain the unit of representation. The number of members from Quebec in the Dominion House is fixed at sixty-five and, at each redistribution of the Dominion constituencies, each of the other provinces is allotted its representation proportionately on the basis of population to that fixed representation of Quebec. Estimates of the changes in parliamentary representation which will follow the decennial census next year vary to some extent, but the general belief is held that owing to the vast increase in population in the West, the Maritime Provinces, where the population is more or less at a standstill, will lose five seats—two in New Brunswick, two in Nova Scotia and one in Prince Edward Island. The situation is vital to the future of the Maritime Provinces.

The amendment favored by the members of the conference of provincial governments expresses the view taken by Mr. Warburton, member for Queens County, P. E. Island, and Dr. Daniel, the representative of St. John in the debate on the question in the House of Commons, during the last session. Following a resolution moved by Mr. Kyte of Richmond, N. S., to the effect that the Maritime Provinces should have preserved to them their present representation, Mr. Warburton moved and Dr. Daniel seconded an amendment that, "each province in the Dominion of Canada shall have as a minimum representation in the House of Commons, 'the representation it had upon becoming a province of Canada.' That, in the redistribution of the constituencies to be made after the next, and after each future 'decennial census, the representation of each province shall not be less than that minimum.'"

When New Brunswick and Nova Scotia entered confederation the former had 15 and the latter 19 members. In 1875 the representation stood New Brunswick 16, Nova Scotia 21, and P. E. Island 6. At the present time, as the result of the redistribution bill of 1903, New Brunswick has 13, Nova Scotia 18, and P. E. Island 4.

The Maritime Provinces through their past and present representatives at Ottawa have maintained the fair and reasonable contention that, at the time of confederation, there was no compact establishing exact and unchanging representation by population based on Quebec as a unit. They point to the saving clause in the act itself which provides that any province losing ground in comparison with Quebec should not have its representation reduced unless the proportion of its population to the aggregate population of Canada has been diminished by at least five per cent.

At the time the act was passed the provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick formed, as the third section puts it, "one Dominion under the name of Canada; and on and after that day those three provinces shall form and be one Dominion under that name accordingly." Under this rule New Brunswick and her sister provinces would never have lost a member. It was with this understanding that they joined confederation. When under subsequent amendments to the act, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia, with their vast population, were included in the Dominion of Canada this safeguard was swept away. To quote the words of Dr. Daniel during the course of the last debate:—"That is the great grievance which we in the Maritime Provinces have, to use a common expression we have been goldbricked by these various amendments which, without our knowledge and consent, have been made to the British North America Act."

That the present situation is a departure from the intention of the fathers of confederation there can be no doubt. It is only necessary to quote the late Sir John A. Macdonald, in his report on the admission of the North West Territory in 1870, to show that in framing the scheme of representation it was intended to confine it to the four original provinces of Canada. He said:—"The general purview of the British North America Act of 1867, seems to be confined to the four provinces, Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick originally forming the Dominion."

Apart from this contention the enlargement of Quebec, the pivotal province, to double its size has obviously disturbed the original standard of measurement. When the provinces entered into confederation with Quebec the latter had certain well defined boundaries. There can be no question that the development of New Quebec has increased, and will continue to increase, the population of old Quebec. A strong protest on this ground was made to the Dominion Parliament by the legislature of New Brunswick in 1905. Mr. Tweedie, the present lieutenant governor, who was then premier, stated the case clearly in the following terms:—"At the time of confederation Quebec had certain well defined boundaries. According to the census of 1871 it had an area of 193,555 square miles. Quebec is the province by which the representation of the other provinces is regulated. In 1898 an act was passed which

extended the boundaries of Quebec so that it contained 331,000 square miles, an addition of 138,000 square miles to its territory. This territory thus added to Quebec is that territory through which the Grand Trunk Pacific will pass, and which we may expect to become populous in the future. The result will be to diminish our representation in a way never contemplated by the 'British North America Act.'"

An agreement to measure representation by a certain unit and then increase the size of that unit is on the face of it grossly unfair to the other participants.

The contention has been put forward and doubtless will be again that the British North America Act and its amendments have received judicial confirmation in Canada before the Supreme Court and subsequently before the Privy Council, and that the Quebec contention was sustained. But there is a marked difference in the way a parliament and a court may deal with the question. The courts in this country and in Great Britain refuse to consider parliamentary documents and explanatory speeches in the interpretation of an act. It is not to the courts that the Maritime Provinces must look for redress. Legal avenues are closed by the decision of the Privy Council. But when the supreme legislature of the Empire, the mother of parliaments, is asked to do justice, parliamentary documents and speeches, which in this case can have but one interpretation, have great weight. That door is always open where a great moral wrong is being perpetrated.

THE ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION.

The public meeting to organize a branch of the St. John Ambulance Association to be held this afternoon in the rooms of the Board of Trade, should see a large attendance of the citizens to give their countenance and aid in furthering this important work. The movement follows the recent reorganization of the council of the Canadian branch of the association and has for its object the formation of provincial branches to advance the work in the various provinces of the Dominion. Col. G. Carleton Jones, director general of medical services for the Militia Department, who is a member of the executive of the St. John Ambulance Association, will be the principal speaker, and will be assisted by Capt. R. J. Birdwhistell, the general secretary.

The objects of the association are:—First, to teach non-professional people the best way to render immediate attention to any person suffering accident or sudden illness, until the arrival of the doctor. Second, to teach people what not to do in case of accident so that there shall be no likelihood of a sympathetic but ignorant public causing unnecessary pain and suffering through improper treatment. Third, that in case of emergency, such as bleeding, poisoning, choking or drowning, a life may not be sacrificed for the want of a little elementary knowledge on the part of the bystander. The needless suffering caused by the ignorance of unskilled persons is as undoubted as it is deplorable. By rough handling, or for want of the slight knowledge necessary to enable one to support an injured limb very serious consequences may ensue. To arrest bleeding from an artery is quite easy, yet thousands of lives have been lost in the presence of helpless spectators who have not been taught that little knowledge necessary to enable them to give intelligent first aid to the sufferer.

Those who take up these classes of instruction are given free lectures and practical instruction by qualified medical practitioners, after which some other medical man examines them and, provided they can pass the necessary examination, recommends them for the St. John Ambulance Association certificate. After this examination men holding this certificate are allowed one hour each week to meet together for practice, and are thereby kept up to a proper state of efficiency. The ambulance man is given strictly to understand the exact relative position "first aid" has to the medical profession. He is not expected to supplant the doctor or to treat any accident to its final solution, for the simple reason that the work of the ambulance man ends where the doctor's commences; that is to say, the duty of the ambulance man is to prevent personal injury being made worse by the ignorant but sympathetic attention of his colleagues or fellow-workmen. He would, if necessary, apply splints and bandages, administer simple remedies, place the sufferer in the most safe and comfortable position, and await the arrival of the doctor. In a less serious case he would give such treatment as was necessary, and convey or send his patient to a doctor, and there his responsibility ends.

The importance of the knowledge to be gained through the instruction afforded by the association, cannot be too strongly emphasized. It is to be hoped that the movement will receive every encouragement and support.

CURRENT COMMENT

(Vancouver (B.C.) News-Advertiser.)

Toronto is mourning its mispent past. Its people find themselves in a large city, which nature intended to be beautiful, and might have been laid out to great advantage. But the town was allowed to grow as it liked. Places which should have been reserved for public uses were left to their fate. Some buildings which should have adorned the city are a blot on the landscape, and some of the choice positions have passed to the commonest use. Toronto people see how much better they could do it all if they had the chance that offered even one generation ago.

(Toronto News.)

The assurance from The London Times that the King will find means of visiting his outlying dominions fits in with the modern conception of the British Empire as a league of co-equal States. George the Fifth is no more King of Great Britain than he is King of Canada, King of Australia, of New Zealand, and of South Africa. This aspect of the monarchy as a common possession of all the British peoples wherever distributed has steadily grown of late years, and will steadily grow in the years to come.

(Hamilton Spectator.)

There seems to be need for a good deal of civilizing influence among some of those western Canada settlers from the countries of Europe. One of them traded a twin baby, just presented to him by his wife, to a childless neighbor for a young pig, and didn't seem to think there was anything out of the way in the transaction.

(Winnipeg Tribune.)

Over Macleod postoffice, just before Sir Wilfrid entered the town, a big placard bore this inscription: "This is a h—l of a place," the words being attributed to Hon. Frank Oliver, who happened to enter the building last year.

(Toronto Globe.)

There is no longer danger of a "foreign" west. Apart from British and Canadian settlers, the Americans alone have sent 25,000 more people into the Canadian west since 1897 than all the nations of Europe.

(Hamilton Times.)

Italy pays her King \$3,070,000 a year; the Austrian emperor receives \$3,900,000; the Kaiser of Germany, \$4,500,000. It costs a lot to live in these times of high prices of the bare necessities.



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All was quiet in the engine house. Douglas Doughbrain, who was loafing there, wished something would happen. "Bing-bing-bing!" went the joker. Everybody said what a chump Douglas was to be leaning against the sliding pole just when the men of the No. Eighty wanted to come down in a hurry. THE END.

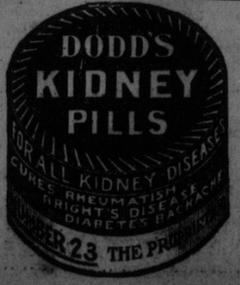
KINGS PROBATE COURT

Hampton, Sept. 14.—Today in the probate court of Kings county, Judge McLartye admitted to proof the will of Mrs. Olive McLeod, relict of the late James McLeod, of Sussex, merchant, deceased, which was made by the Rev. Millidge Walker, one of the witnesses to its signatures, and on petition letters testamentary were granted to the only surviving son, Harry McLeod, who was duly sworn in as executor. The value of the estate is placed at \$1000, all personal property, E. H. McAlpine, K. C. proctor. In the matter of the estate of Josiah Beattie, late of Sussex, England, farmer, deceased, the executors, A. W. Hicks and Walter Gilliland, asked that citation to pass the same be reserved until the coming of age of one of the heirs in December next. All of which was duly granted. G. O. Dickson Otty, proctor.

In the matter of the estate of Mrs. Mary Jane Daniels, wife of Henry Daniels, late of New Brunswick, in the Parish of Hampton, deceased, Wilmer Harrison Daniels petitioned that the will be proved and that letters testamentary be granted him as executor of the said estate. The Rev. Millidge Walker approved the signature and the petition was sworn to the proper administration of the estate, which is valued at \$450 of which \$150 is realty and \$300 personalty. E. P. Raymond, proctor.

CLOSING STOCK LETTER.

By direct private wires to J. C. Mackintosh & Co. New York, Sept. 15.—Professional traders and outside speculators seem to have become impressed today with the apparent indisposition of banking interests to encourage a sustained speculation for the rise at this time and there was, as a result, a considerable revision of sentiment with respect to the immediate movement of the market. There have been strong intimations in circulation of late that certain powerful interests would not be adverse to a pull and sagging market pending the November elections and the character of operations today was of a kind to indicate that manipulation to this purpose had been begun. When activity developed the market became weak and during the afternoon, especially, there were evidences of rather aggressive bear tactics on the part of the professional element. There was some heavy selling of steel, and steel billets would shortly be announced. Authorities in the trade expect a falling off in business until the political prospect is more clearly defined and it is entirely possible that the Steel Corporation may decide that lower prices would be a profitable expedient to a further shutting down of its mills. All things considered the situation rather invites professional bear operations, but the market, nevertheless, is pretty well liquidated, and unless some influential factor develops it seems probable that any successful attack on prices will be merely part of a manipulative programme to accumulate stocks. LAIDLAW & CO.



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NEWSY BUDGET FROM MIRAMICHI TOWN

Fine Gift Enriches Chatham's Natural History Museum—Town Council Discusses Better Water Service.

Chatham, N. B., Sept. 14.—The Natural History Association's museum has been enriched to the extent of two hundred specimens of minerals and two hundred and fifty plants, the collection of the late Professor Chalmers, of Ottawa. Many of these are rare and had been collected with great care by Prof. Chalmers during his lifetime. They are all carefully named and numbered, and are a valuable addition to the museum. This association is doing splendid work in its line the past lecture season being one of the best since the association was formed. The funeral of the late Mrs. John S. Johnson took place yesterday morning, the service at the house commencing at ten o'clock. Rev. L. A. Buckley and Rev. George Wood conducted the services at the house and at the grave. The pall-bearers were S. McLeod, M. S. Benson, G. B. Fraser, C. A. Cassidy, A. H. Margins, J. Y. Mersereau. Interment was in Riverside cemetery. Mrs. Arthur McCurdy arrived from Chicago yesterday morning at nine

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o'clock, in time for her mother's funeral. Miss Alice Burchill gave a very delightful variety shower yesterday afternoon in honor of Miss Lena Doran whose marriage to Charles Falconer, formerly of Newcastle, but now of Winnipeg, takes place shortly. C. P. Huxley left on Monday for Halifax, where he is attending the annual convention of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association. William Blewett returned from St. John last night. Mrs. Cousins of Newcastle and her guest, Miss Williams, of England, visited Mr. and Mrs. John McDonald yesterday. Miss Clara Hicky is attending the Dominion Exhibition, St. John. Miss Kate Keating and Miss Monahan, are attending the fair in St. John. Fred Neely left today for Charlotte, town, where he resumes his studies at St. Dunstan's College. Miss L. Fisher left for St. John today, en route to Sackville, where she will pursue her studies at Mt. Allison Ladies' College. Mrs. Harrington and Miss Agnes Harrington left on Monday to attend the St. John exhibition and will return tonight. Mrs. James A. Nowlan and Mrs. Thomas Fitzpatrick left on Monday for St. John and returned Wednesday night. Mrs. William Dick was hostess at a very pleasant bridge, Monday evening, in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Crocker. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Crocker, Miss Snowball, Miss Pierce, the Misses Beveridge, the Misses Winslow, Miss Florrie Hocken, Miss Nellie Goggin and Messrs. E. C. Macleod, J. P. Wood, Dr. Vaughan, A. W. Wilbur, J. F. and Don Beveridge, and R. Corry Clark. Miss Mae DesBrisay, Newcastle, was in town Monday, the guest of Mrs. W. C. Winslow. Mrs. F. E. Loggie and Miss Susie Gillespie went to St. John Monday and will return tonight. At the council meeting Monday evening a communication was read from the Board of Health asking the council to take the necessary steps to see that the town water supply was not contaminated by reason of the work being done along the new railway line. Ald. Cassidy said the contractors had promised to see that the men did not wash their clothes at its dam or in any brooks flowing into it. Ald. Tweedie made a report on the work being done by the board of works throughout the town.—Received. Ald. Cassidy reported for the light department that street lights would be added as follows: One on Water street, between Queen and Richard's fountain, one on Duke street between Princess and Hill and also one moved on same section; one on King street between Harvard and Wellington and one moved on same section; one on Wentworth street between Wellington and Duke and one on Henderson street between Duke and Water streets. The light balance was \$167.00.—Adopted. Ald. Abbott of the park committee, Ald. Williams of the fire department and Ald. Haley of the police committee reported bills. Ald. Haley read the Scott Act inspector's report of fines for the month as follows: Peter Archer, 1st offence, \$50; Alice Currie, 1st offence, \$50; Frank Winslow, 2nd offence, \$100; Peter Archer, 2nd offence, \$100. Arch Frackear, subsequent offence, four months in jail. Ald. Haley read the report of the finance committee in Ald. Loggie's absence. Receipts for August were \$2,854.97 and expenditures \$6,008.88. The assessments of Miss Beattie C. McFarlane, James A. Johnston and John C. White will not be reduced; three years taxes on the Michael Moran estate will be accepted from James Wilkinson in settlement of taxes to date, and H. B. McDonald's personal assessment will be reduced by \$25.—Adopted. The council then adjourned.

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