

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1904.

MAY 26, 1904.

### THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH

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B. W. McCREADY, Editor.

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**Semi-Weekly Telegraph**

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 28, 1904.

### A MOST LAMENTABLE ACCIDENT.

No recent news has so shocked this community as that which spread Monday afternoon to the effect that Messrs. John H. Thomson, R. P. Foster and E. P. Staver, had been drowned while fishing at Ormoco Lake. Late last night a second report, bringing the good tidings that Mr. Staver had saved his life after a desperate swim to shore through rough water from the capsize boat, and that though fearfully shaken by his experience he was rapidly recovering.

Great as was the relief following this intelligence there was still all too heavy a weight for mourning as it became an accepted fact that Mr. Foster was known to be dead and that Mr. Thomson, while not actually seen to have drowned, could scarcely have escaped, and that the boat, on which Mr. Staver had saved his life, had been found, with dragging anchor, some distance from the uninhabited shore.

The remoteness of the scene of the terrible fatality caused the bad news to travel slowly, but confirmation of the loss of two of the party came too soon, and their home circles, and in no small degree the entire city, were stricken with mourning.

To this afflicted there went out such helpful sympathy as is possible in the face of a calamity so complete and so lamentable.

Mr. Thomson was known as one of the foremost of a group of sterling business men who represent the best that St. John stands for. Personally and through the firm of which he was a pillar he had done much for the city which was his home, and a walk in the city had been to command the respect of his acquaintances and the deep affection of his friends. Mr. Foster, though a much younger man, had but recently returned to this city as a result of deserved promotion at the hands of superiors who had learned to value and to trust him to families of admirable service. To the families of both in their hour of affliction will go out the heartfelt sympathy of the entire city. There will be widespread rejoicing over Mr. Staver's remarkable escape. It is difficult to realize that citizens who but a day or two ago were among their fellows and at the height of their activity and usefulness have been so suddenly taken away. They will be sadly missed.

The remarkable circumstances attending Mr. Staver's escape, and the fact that a wilderness surrounds the lake, led many to cherish the desperate hope that Mr. Thomson might also be found alive by searching parties, but at the hour of going to press there seemed no ground for entertaining a theory, proof of the soundness of which would have been so gladly received.

### IS CANADA SO DEPRIVED?

If we may accept as reliable—and no doubt we safely may—an extract from the address of Rev. William Dabson of Windsor (N.S.) before the Methodist General Conference at Los Angeles which is reproduced in the American press, the reverend gentleman has given a somewhat unpleasant description of the people of the land he lives in. He finds us and writes that word in large letters before the eyes of all the continent. Let us look at the indictment.

"We have no colored question there to agitate us. We have no Mormonism, with its untiring propaganda and its almost inflexible organization; but when reduced to the last analysis, our difficulty in Canada is the thing that the theologians call 'original sin' (laughter). Total depravity. I don't know whether you know anything about it on this side or not, but we have it over there, gigantic in its proportions, herculean in its strength. It breaks out in the form of political corruption, sometimes until we hide our heads with shame because we find men professing the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, can be bought and sold like sheep and oxen. Then it takes the form of strife between capital and labor, giving us no end of trouble to reconcile the views. Then it comes in the form of the awful liquor traffic, blighting our homes, ruining our young manhood, throwing its dark shadows across life's pathway in almost every department of human activity. When it comes to this form on our side, oh, it is cruel! Oh, it is mean! It is degrading! And sometimes on the Canadian side that total depravity will break out right within the bounds of the church, and it will pull wires for election it will canvas for position, especially

just before a general conference; and there is almost no limit to the depth of degradation to which it will stoop when it wants to gain its end for power or position in the church. It is very bad there in that case."

These blanket charges regarding political corruption and the liquor traffic are familiar. They are not groundless. Labor troubles in Canada have become acute in some instances, but Canada is as yet a paradise of freedom and order in this respect if we make the most natural comparison under these circumstances and refer to the excesses of both labor and capital in the United States of America. The reverend gentleman had, perhaps, neither the power nor the wish to speak more specifically regarding these matters. His remarks in regard to them will, perhaps, pass without serious challenge.

But his word concerning the church, spoken in a continental assembly of that church's representatives, is different. Will it not be said, and with some force, that Rev. Mr. Dabson said too little or too much? Will it not appear to many that he went too far or not far enough? Who are they who hesitate at almost no depth of degradation when seeking place and power in the church? Were the men whom the reverend gentleman had in mind sitting before him? If he spoke out of his own knowledge concerning men of the church, present or absent, but within reach of the church discipline, was there no one in his hearing to demand names and specific allegations?

Will not men say of this speaker that, if he spoke without knowledge, he pursued a course wholly inexcusable? Will not men say that if he spoke deliberately and of knowledge that the assembly should have postponed all other business until it had purged itself of those whom the Rev. William Dabson indicted? It is not right that the just should suffer with the unjust. The many who do not stoop to degradation should not rest under an imputation which may be deserved by a few. Will the reverend gentleman quit the company he indicted, and make war alone on the evils of society, or will he be content with having freed his mind of these too general allegations? Will members of his church and people of his country not say of him that in his fervor and frankness he gave them condemnation for rather more "original sin" than actual conditions warrant him in assuming exists? If Canada be as depraved as Mr. Dabson is said to have represented it one may surely be permitted to shudder in contemplating conditions across the line.

### FRANCE HOARDING GOLD.

Financial critics are asking the meaning of the tremendous stream of gold which recently set toward France and which is still flowing toward that country. Trying to find in the profit of exchange any satisfactory explanation of this feature of French finance, they are asking whether this gold is being hoarded in expectation of a turn in the war which will cause France to appear not only as Russia's banker but as her fighting ally.

Although the remission of gold ceased to be profitable a week or ten days ago, several treasure ships with almost unparalleled gold freights are now crossing the ocean and more gold is in preparation for shipment. In Paris a reserve of gold exceeding all previous records is being accumulated. Already there is gold bullion in the Bank of France valued at the staggering total of \$506,275,000, which is more than all the gold in the Bank of England, the Imperial Bank of Germany, and the Bank of Italy combined, and twice as much as is held by all the banks in greater New York. Today, then, the treasure chest of the Bank of France is richer than it has been on all previous occasions but one, and when the gold cargoes now on the ocean reach their destination the bullion in the Paris vaults will exceed all previous records there.

The ordinary view of late has been that this unprecedented flow of gold to France is accounted for by a determination to ensure the success of the present Russian loan, and perhaps of further loans—a word by France's decision to find the means of war for Russia and in that way assist her and, profiting by the new loans, make sure that the previous vast sums sent to Russia shall be safe. But within the last few days this common explanation has been stamped by many financial writers as unsatisfactory. They see that France has attracted gold from London as well as from New York when a profit under the ruling exchange rate was more than doubtful, and they are inclined to see, not ordinary business but settled purpose, not ordinary business but settled purpose, not ordinary business but settled purpose.

One of the leading financial writers says of this yellow stream toward France and its meaning: "Probably the solution of this question is to be looked for in the game of war and statecraft now being played in Europe and the Orient. France—bound by what solemn obligations to Russia, who can say—may be accumulating a war fund, not so much for her ally as for herself. Should the Japanese succeed in annihilating the Russian army and destroying the fleet, then possibly the true purpose of the fund might be revealed in the tangible form of battleships and naval armaments; and so, too, if the Japanese were defeated and England at the eleventh hour intervened between the Russians and their territorial spoils of war. Should these conjectures approximate the truth, then assuredly France can afford to pay a premium on our gold, and the export movement will continue, provided the premium be not too heavy."

An obvious objection to this view is found in the recently established entente between France and Great Britain, but the objection may be weakened by the belief

that the course of events in the Far East may so far outrun all calculations, in one direction or another, that a country with France's financial and sentimental interest in Russia's fortune is wise in preparing for events which would revolutionize present financial conditions.

The cable this morning brings from Paris the report that Russia has asked if France will go to her assistance in case China should violate her pledges of neutrality, and that the French government has replied in the affirmative. There have been indications recently that Russia might force China to abandon neutrality. If this were Russia's intention it would be easier to understand her application for a pledge of assistance from France, and the record-breaking accumulation of gold in Paris.

### PROFESSOR SHORTT ON THE CHAMBERLAIN IDEA.

Had Professor Adam Shortt, who teaches political economy at Queen's University, Kingston, been invited to the recent banquet of the Industrial League here, there is evidence that he would have figured as a speaker at the feast. The Canadian Manufacturer, of Toronto, the review editorially Professor Shortt's recent pamphlet on Canada's interest in and attitude toward the proposal for preferential trade within the Empire. Like many who speak for the preference at the present stage of the discussion, Professor Shortt talks over-confidently in taking ground against it, for he cannot yet know what terms the Colonies may have to consider. The Manufacturer says in part:

"Though Professor Shortt considers the proposition in many varying aspects, the gist of his criticism is that Canada is a nation and will develop along national lines, taking advantage of all her natural resources and utilizing them to their full extent. She will never surrender, even partially, her right to install and extend manufactures of her own raw materials nor to increase her price to a specialist in the industry. She will never consent to sacrifice the fullness and variety of her civilization nor doom herself to remain a granary, with all its implications of social and lowered intellectual and commercial growth. In short, her people feel the impulse of destiny as an entity. She has no disposition to become a specialist in the department in a vast organization. With growing consciousness of her own natural riches, she must and will expand naturally and symmetrically, increasing simultaneously her agricultural population and the industries to supply it with necessities and luxuries. Her opportunities and her disposition are such that she will never consent to handicap her own internal development in order to make a preserve for British manufacturers. Imperial sentiment is an excellent thing in its proper sphere, but to traffic in it is to degrade and destroy it. Professor Shortt is inclined to poke fun at the Chamberlain programme, which he says includes the promise of a stationary provision market to the British workman, through the readiness of the foreigner to pay the tax, through the increased price to Canada for her grain, and in conjunction an increased market for the product of her labor, in conjunction with a higher price to the specialist in the industry. He confesses his inability to see how all these promises are to be simultaneously kept; but bases his opposition to the scheme less on the impossibility of the predicted results from such an arrangement than on the impossibility of inducing the Dominion to deliberately tie her own hands with regard to the utilization of the riches which nature has lavished upon her."

Mr. Chamberlain and his followers, or some of them, have declared that there is no desire to restrict Canadian manufacturing expansion, and that the arrangement contemplated by the former Colonial Secretary would give this country encouragement rather than impose impediment in the matter of developing its own resources in its own way. If that be true, Professor Shortt is not condemning the Chamberlain idea but a bogey of his own construction, and he errs in going to one extreme while some enthusiasts, who cannot await the action of the people of Great Britain, err in going to the other.

### TARIFF CHANGES?

Mr. J. W. Thomson, who often has accurate information concerning affairs at Ottawa, sends out a rumor—it is really no more than that—to the effect that Hon. Mr. Fielding in his forthcoming budget speech will announce higher duties on woollens, cottons, steel and iron, and perhaps on other goods.

The correspondent thinks the tariff changes most likely at present are those affecting steel rails and woollens, while other increases might well await further consideration and would not be dealt with until another session if at all.

Mr. Thomson's guess may be as good as another. The Toronto Mail recently announced that increased protection for the woollen industry was coming, but this view was promptly challenged by the Montreal Herald, a government newspaper whose sources of information should be trustworthy. The Herald bluntly asserts that "about all the Canadian mills which devote themselves to the manufacture of pure wool goods, which are any way well managed, and which have contrived to shake off the burdens heaped upon them during the period of the Foster tariff, are now doing well." It adds: "There is the Platon mill at Sherbrooke, for instance, which never paid a dividend under the Foster tariff, and which is paying dividends under the present tariff. There is the Rossmond mill at Alberton, whose leading spirit is a Conservative . . . but which is doing a large and profitable business. There is a mill at Moncton doing so well that there is talk, even in this crisis as is supposed to be upon us, of considerably enlarging the premises. There are Nova Scotia mills which find a ready market for every yard of cloth they can produce. There are Ontario mills which run a whole year on orders taken by one salesman in six weeks. There are

other Ontario mills so sure of their ground that they will only sell at about three clothing houses in the Dominion. And all this under the present tariff."

The Herald, therefore, is of opinion that the woollen industry will receive no further protection. It says: "Of the group of mills closed down the other day it is to be noted that so shrewd a merchant as Mr. Timothy Eaton, of Toronto, is said to be willing to take them over at what he considers a good business valuation and operate them afterwards. Letting well enough alone seems to have done very well up to date, and might serve a little longer."

But the fact is that Mr. Fielding can scarcely have taken Mr. Thomson, the Mail and Empire or even the Herald into his confidence, and still in each case it is a case of the wish fathering the thought.

### THE OPEN CHURCH AND THE OPEN SHOP.

Dean Hodges, of the Episcopal Theological School of Cambridge, preached, the other day, before an audience for the improvement of labor, and a committee of the Boston Central Labor Union, and other labor delegations heard him. The Dean spoke mildly, yet there has been no such argument presented recently in favor of the open shop as opposed to the closed shop, the shop which must employ only union men or quit business. The Dean told his audience that the church had tried extreme union methods and had found them extremely injurious. His was a well-phased comparison of early church and recent union methods:

"We of the church have been through it all," he said, "from the least to the greatest and the worst. We have made use of the strike and the boycott to an extent which fills whole chapters of history. We have not hesitated, when we had a point to gain or an enemy to hurt, to lay a whole nation under an interdict whereby the people were deprived of the necessities of spiritual life."

"When Mary was a queen of England you remember what we did. We got a law passed that nobody except an official of our union should baptize or confirm or administer the sacrament of the altar or marry, or even bury, in all the realm under pain, first of fine, then of imprisonment and then of death. You know what we did as the amalgamated ad association of Congregationalists and Presbyterians. We cut off the head of a nonunion king. You remember how we behaved here in Massachusetts in the matter of the open state. There is no difference in principle between the open state and the open shop."

"The question was Shall we permit nonunionists to share with us in the government? And we said no. Not a man shall hold a public office or even cast a vote unless he is a member of the church. And we whipped the non-union Baptists and the non-union Quakers, beating them with scourges through the streets of our chief cities."

"If Diogenes was here today and was to start through one of our great cities with a lantern looking for an honest man some of us would steal his lantern before he got three blocks—Chatham Street."

Is St. John "one of our great cities"? The World comes to St. John occasionally, and when he is here, if at no other time, it certainly is a great city. If Diogenes had been here last week he could have found an honest man at box making match. This honest man found \$100, advertised it, paid for the ad, and restored the money to the man who lost it. St. John, then, may fairly claim that it should not be included in the World's indictment.

### WARM WINDUP OF THE G. T. P. DEBATE.

(Continued from page 1.)  
rates which might be reduced if the company did not have to pay dividends on a lot of fictitious capital.

Cost of Eastern Section.  
Mr. Fielding quoted figures from Mr. Schuchter showing that the cost of building the road from Quebec to Moncton would be \$25,000 per mile and from Quebec to Winnipeg \$38,000. Adding to this for a better grade and making it \$51,000 a mile and still the leader of the opposition would be \$10,000,000 out in the calculation of the cost of the eastern line.

There was not a man in the maritime provinces who would hold up his hand against the scheme, which was truly a national one. It all became, he said, for Mr. Borden to talk about corruption in connection with any bargain because the darkest page in the political history of Canada was in the early stage of the Canadian Pacific Railway. There was no "send me another \$10,000" in connection with this transaction.

The distance from North Bay to Winnipeg was 1,012 miles and from Winnipeg to the Pacific coast 1,480 miles, making 2,492 miles in all which at \$6,400 a mile represented a total cash grant of \$15,948,800. The land grant sought was 12,400,000 acres, which at the exceedingly moderate rate of \$3 an acre represents \$37,200,000, or in other words \$53,248,800 altogether in money and land. And what, asked Mr. Fielding, would this have given to Canada? Not a highway from ocean to ocean but one that ended 1,000 miles inland from the Atlantic. In other words, their request was for a free gift of \$53,248,800 for part of a new transcontinental road.

Dr. Daniel Favors Government Ownership.  
Mr. Haggart said that if the government built the railway then they should own it.

Dr. Daniel spoke in support of the amendment. He had no difficulty in supporting government ownership which was in line with the views of his constituents.

Mr. Emmerson Speaks.  
It was 1 o'clock when Hon. H. R. Emmerson rose to reply to Mr. Haggart. He was on his feet when Doctor Daniel got up, but the minister of railways gave way for the member from St. John.

Mr. Emmerson started out by referring to the press of the world would adopt

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St. John, N. B., May 28, 1904.

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On and after SUNDAY, Oct. 11, 1903, trains will run daily (Sunday excepted), as follows:

TRAINS LEAVE ST. JOHN.  
No. 4—Mixed for Moncton, . . . . . 6.30  
No. 2—Express for Halifax, the Sydney and Campbellton, . . . . . 7.00  
No. 4—Mixed for Point du Chene, . . . . . 12.15  
No. 26—Express for Point du Chene, . . . . . 12.15  
No. 2—Express for Sussex, . . . . . 12.15  
No. 134—Express for Quebec and Montreal, . . . . . 12.15  
No. 10—Express for Halifax and Sydney, . . . . . 12.15

TRAINS ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN.  
No. 4—Express from Halifax and Sydney, . . . . . 6.30  
No. 7—Express from Sussex, . . . . . 6.30  
No. 134—Express from Montreal and Quebec, . . . . . 6.30  
No. 2—Express from Moncton, . . . . . 12.15  
No. 5—Mixed from Moncton, . . . . . 12.15  
No. 3—Mixed from Point du Chene, . . . . . 12.15  
No. 25—Express from Halifax, Pictou and Campbellton, . . . . . 12.15  
No. 1—Express from Moncton (Sunday only), . . . . . 12.15

All trains run by Atlantic Standard Time: 24.00 o'clock is midnight.  
Moncton, N. B., Oct. 9, 1903.

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