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ON THE FIRING LINE

Remember that the Polls Open
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On September 21

The morning paper is nothing if not self contradictory. Two weeks ago it used up reams of paper proving in its scare editorials that wages of workmen are regulated by the cost of living and by that alone. It refused to admit any other element as a determining factor in the wage question. This morning it not only abandons that ground, but declares emphatically that wages have nothing to do with the cost of living. Here is what it says:

"With reciprocity in effect local industries will be stifled, laborers will be thrown out of employment, there will be a surplus in the local labor market and it is an economic certainty, that based as it is upon the law of supply and demand, the price of labor must come down."

How many more "bases" the Colonist will discover as a sure enough foundation for an excuse to champion high tariffs and high cost of living cannot be foretold. Why not come out flatly like Premier McBride, and say to the wage earning consumer: "We will raise the tariff still higher?" That was a fair, square, candid statement of the "basis" of high living as an "economic certainty" even if it was a slip of the tongue.

To the man who pauses long enough to think clearly it must appear strange that so many American newspapers are being edited in the Tory papers of Canada as favoring annexation. The funny part of the case is that the matter is settled in the United States; the vote is taken; the agreement signed. And these papers who believe reciprocity will lead to annexation are still harping away against reciprocity. They don't want reciprocity, which they say will lead to annexation. And they cheerfully peddle this delirium tremens to their readers and expect them to qualify for an asylum by believing it. Alas! The power of money!

SIR WILFRID'S TRIUMPHS.
(St. John Telegraph.)
Sir Wilfrid goes from triumph to triumph. The Halifax meeting was the greatest ever seen in Nova Scotia. He will be a lucky man if he is not defeated in his own constituency. In the province generally his party will be routed.

LAURIER'S WIT.
(Sir Wilfrid Laurier at Ahuntstic.)
When I see Mr. Borden, Mr. Sifton and the Bourassa united against me I say to myself, "What a salad." I suppose Mr. Sifton furnishes the oil for it, and I am sure Mr. Bourassa supplies the vinegar, while poor Mr. Borden has the lettuce.

BARNARD'S ALLY.
(Halifax Chronicle.)
Henri Bourassa, the Quebec ally of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, tells the people of his province that if the Laurier government is defeated that will mean the return of the Manitoba school question and justice being done to his compatriots who have been hardily dealt with by the Liberals. In the same appeal the Quebec ally of Mr. Borden says: "This naval scheme is one which will spill the life-blood of your sons on foreign shores all to bring to Sir Wilfrid Laurier the praise of an Imperial press and the decorations of an Imperial government. If French Canadians so declare, the navy will disappear."

GROWING INDEPENDENCE.
(Windsor Record.)
All over this country there are signs of voters being wakened away from the hide-bound party politics. Few men any longer boast that they have voted this way or that all their lives and their fathers did before them. Boasts of that nature are not heard these days as signifying the highest type of intelligence. There are few men also who declare in this enlightened period of the world's history that they would vote for the choice of the party if it happened to be a yellow dog.

CONGDON ALREADY ELECTED.
(Whitehorse Star.)
That there will be no opposition to Mr. Congdon for re-election to the Yukon House of Commons, December 17, 1912, there will be none in the Liberal party. Mr. Congdon that his previous term has given such general satisfaction to his constituency regardless of party.

TIMES HAVE CHANGED.
(Edmonton Bulletin.)
J. A. Currie, Conservative member of the North Simcoe, speaking in the House of Commons, December 17, 1909, (House Hansard, p. 1715): "The Americans send thousands of bushels of potatoes into Canada because their potato crop ripens earlier than ours, and yet the Canadian farmers in New Brunswick are practically prohibited from sending potatoes into the United States." Every Conservative should vote for reciprocity.

LOWER CABLE
RATES PROBABLE

REDUCTION ON MESSAGES.
THAT ARE NOT URGENT

It is Believed New Charges Will Be Brought Into Effect in Few Months

London, Sept. 8.—The report of the Pacific Cable Board states that the negotiations for the establishment of a reduced rate for messages that were not urgent give promise of a satisfactory outcome. The Postmaster General has expressed the opinion that the advantage of the proposed reduction would be such as to make it highly desirable for operation throughout the cable service of the empire and between the British Dominions and external states. In this regard he has approached the British and American Cable companies and after obtaining their approval had negotiated with foreign governments and there was every prospect that within the next few months it will be possible for messages in plain language to be sent at half existing rates, the charges subject only to the condition that they must await transmission for a period not exceeding 24 hours.

SUSPENDED PLAYER'S CLAIM.

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 8.—"Ducky" Holmes, playing manager of the Victoria baseball team, who was suspended two days ago by order of Secretary Farrell of the National Baseball Commission, on the ground that he was under suspension from the Mobile club in the Southern League and therefore ineligible to play with Victoria, to-day comes back in a telegram to President Lindsay of the Northwestern League, saying he was given his release by Mobile.

President Lindsay has ordered Holmes to produce a copy of the release to verify his claim. If Holmes proves he was given his proper release by the Mobile club, the question who will pay Holmes his salary during his suspension will be opened.

BURNED TO DEATH.

Coles Island, Kings County, N. B., Sept. 11.—Trapped in his stateroom Samuel Francombe of St. John, cook of the steamer Schenckness, was burned to a crisp despite the frantic efforts of his fellow passengers to save him. Francombe only joined the vessel a week ago. The decking and all the upper works were destroyed in the fire which broke out at an early hour this morning from some cause unknown.

GRAIN THRESHING
IS NOW GENERAL

Light Frosts Reported but No Serious Damage Will Result

Winnipeg, Sept. 8.—At Humboldt, Sask., last night the thermometer dropped again to 24, showing eight degrees of frost. Frost was also apparent in a wider degree at numerous other points. Reports to-day, however, show that practically all grain is past the stage where light frosts will cause serious damage. A slight reduction in grade may result.

Threshing is proceeding everywhere and new grain has commenced to move by rail. Shipments up to the present time have graded exceptionally well. The average yields from threshed fields has been from 16 to 25 bushels to the acre. As a class the men who have come as harvesters this year are the ablest and best on record.

MAY CALL ON MILITIA.

Mayor of Hunnewell, Kas., Says Councilmen Have Not Treated Her Fairly.

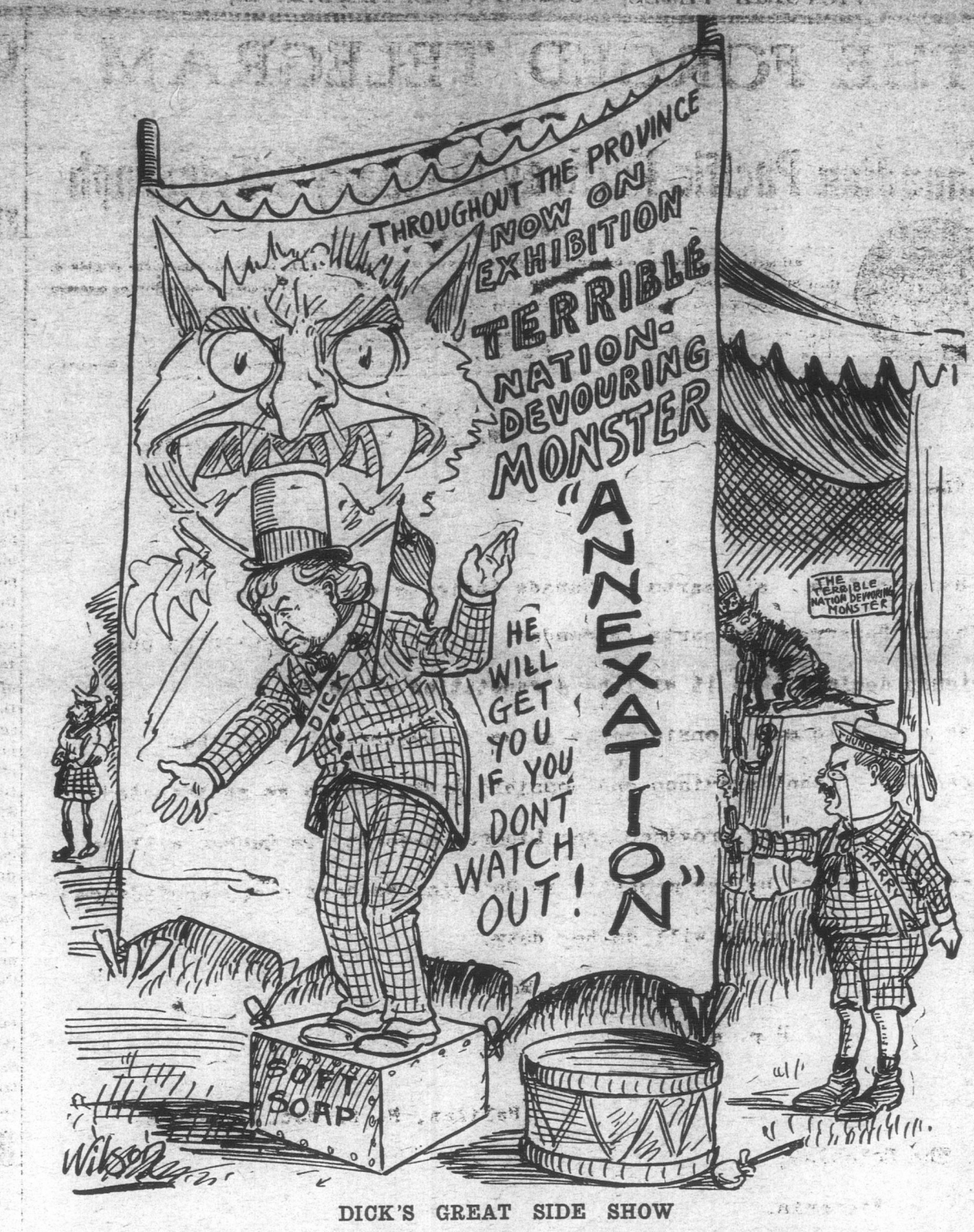
Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 8.—Mrs. Ella Wilson, mayor of Hunnewell, Kas., held a meeting at Kansas City, Kas., with C. W. Trickett, special investigator appointed by Governor Stubbs to untangle the involved municipal affairs of Hunnewell. Mrs. Wilson has been having a great deal of trouble with her councilmen since she took office and she is determined to bring the city fathers to task.

"I'm going to run that little town of Hunnewell," she said, "even if I have to carry out my orders."
"My councilmen haven't treated me fairly. They have refused to meet with me, and as an added affront they have refused to make a tax levy for next year's municipal expenses. I could reason no agreement with them so I decided to come to Kansas City and talk the situation over with Mr. Trickett. He assures me that the state officials will co-operate with me to restore peaceful conditions in Hunnewell."

"Resign? Well, I should say not. I am going to fight this whole thing out, and I'm going to win."

QUESTION OF TITLE SETTLED.

Ottawa, Sept. 8.—When the Duke of Connaught comes to Canada his correct title will be "His Royal Highness Duke of Connaught, Governor-General of Canada." The secretary of state has written the city clerk to that effect, (House Hansard, p. 1715): "The Americans send thousands of bushels of potatoes into Canada because their potato crop ripens earlier than ours, and yet the Canadian farmers in New Brunswick are practically prohibited from sending potatoes into the United States." Every Conservative should vote for reciprocity.



CONSERVATIVE
TACTICS IN QUEBEC

INFLAMMATORY SPEECHES
BY BOURASSA ALLIES

Say England is Forcing Navy on Canada to Spill Blood of French Canadians

Herewith is reproduced from the Toronto Globe an account of a meeting in Quebec province, which shows the kind of campaign being conducted against Sir Wilfrid Laurier in that province by the Conservative-Nationalist alliance. It also shows that notwithstanding the racial appeals to the French-Canadians by the Conservative-Nationalist candidates in Quebec are sticking manfully and courageously to their guns and do not hesitate to defend the naval policy and uphold the honor of British and the British flag. The account given is only a sample of the diabolical language being employed every day in Quebec by the Conservative-Nationalist candidates.

In this province the Conservative party, headed by Premier McBride, is standing for a naval policy that the loyalty issue. We ask the fair-minded and intelligent electors of Victoria what they think of a party that will pursue such a two-faced policy? If there is a particle of sincerity in Mr. Borden and Mr. McBride in their loyalty cry, their first and manifest duty is to denounce and rebuke the diabolical utterances in their own party press.

But we actually find the Conservative party in this city, including Mr. Barnard, boasting that Laurier will lose many seats in Quebec. And for what reason will the Liberal candidates be defeated in Quebec? Because they stand for a naval policy that has been approved by the British Admiralty, a policy, too, that means the bringing of a fleet to Esquimaux? Let us ask Mr. Barnard and his party are any candidates in Quebec standing for such a policy? No, not one.

And, further, if there is any truth in the claim made by the Conservatives that Laurier will lose many seats in Quebec on account of the navy, should not that fact be a double reason for the people of this province, and especially of this city, to vote for the Laurier government and a naval policy that means the establishment of a naval fleet at Esquimaux?

St. Jerome, Que., Aug. 31.—"This is the flag which we are going to place on high on the 21st of September," said Hon. Jean Prevost to-day at St. Jerome, as he waved aloft the tricolor of France. Then folding his arms about the flag, he said: "The red is for Prevost, still a Rouge; the blue is for Nantel, our Conservative ally; and the white for our beloved leader, Henri Bourassa."

Then, leaning far over the railing to be near his audience, he denounced the navy, England and everything but the French-Canadians and the flag of old France.

Wearing a photograph of Bourassa, he appeared as the representative of the Nationalist leader, and in language unsurpassed in bitterness, denounced Laurier, the navy and British connection. "We will never be ready to

HIGH COST OF
LIVING IN FRANCE

GOVERNMENT WILL
ASSIST CONSUMERS

Measures Adopted at Meeting of Ministers Called to Consider the Situation

Rambouillet, France, Sept. 8.—A cabinet council presided over by President Fallieres was held here to consider the disorders arising from the cheaper food agitation and to adopt measures intended to ease the cost of living. The minister of commerce and the minister of agriculture explained in detail the results of their investigation of the problem.

"The cost of everything, eatable is higher throughout France to-day than ever. Prices suddenly jumped up this summer, but this also is true all over western Europe and was caused principally by the droughts and the consequent failure of the fodder and vegetable crops."

The cabinet will endeavor to ameliorate the situation by facilitating the transportation of cattle and frozen meats by installing refrigerating and storage plants of which there are a lack in France, and by demanding that the railroads lower their rates for the transportation of food and by the suspending of the tariffs on fodder.

WORKMEN BURIED IN
RUINS OF THEATRE

Bodies of Sixteen of Victims Received—Rescue Work in Progress

Nice, France, Sept. 8.—The theatre El Erado collapsed here this morning, forty-four workmen engaged in making repairs to the building being buried in the ruins. Rescue work is progressing.

CONVICTED OF MURDER.

Chesterfield Courthouse, Va., Sept. 8.—Henry Clay Beattie, Jr., indicted for wife murder, was this afternoon found guilty.

FROM A MAN ON THE SPOT

A private letter received in this city from Mr. Geo. W. Mitchell, formerly a resident of Victoria, now residing in England and travelling in the East, says:

"They are having extraordinary meetings down by the sea. Laurier spoke in St. John to twenty-five thousand people. Traffic was suspended owing to the crush, and the chief had to be carried on the shoulders of his supporters to the hall. Four thousand turned out in this village (Digby) yesterday, and the great leader was cheered to the echo."

"Halifax will be as strong as St. John. The Lower Provinces will be swept. But the biggest surprise will be in Ontario, where the farming vote is growing daily for reciprocity. I place the total majority for Laurier at 50."

SIR WILFRID'S ONTARIO
TOUR PROVES TRIUMPH

Thousands Acclaim Prime Minister, Who is Confident of Victory—Scores Campaigners Who are Using Annexation Cry.

Sudbury, Ont., Sept. 8.—There is no stopping Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He appears to be having the time of his life. Despite the days and nights of strenuous travel, the hours spent in handshaking, sightseeing and speech-making, the veteran premier bubbles with infectious optimism and high spirits. His health is perfect, his voice unimpaired, his strength is inexhaustible. He is manifestly enjoying every minute of it. It was 11 o'clock Wednesday night before he parted from a cheering crowd at Barrie and at 5 o'clock yesterday morning, the premier is proverbially an early riser, he was greeting friends and supporters in North Bay. At 8 o'clock he was on the way to Sudbury and on his arrival set off forthwith for Copper Cliff where the remainder of a busy morning inspecting the mines and chatting with the miners. At 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, apparently unfatigued and in splendid spirits, he was addressing an enthusiastic open air assembly of five thousand, gathered on the exhibition grounds which are situated in a picturesque natural basin at the foot of the high-ridge of gaunt brown rocks.

Sudbury extended an enthusiastic welcome. Special trains brought crowds of electors from North Bay and Sault Ste Marie. When the premier was presented with the address of welcome in both English and French in which it was pointed out that the best contribution to Britain was a united Canada, an enthusiastic Canadian shouted "A bas de Bourassa." His English-speaking comrades took it up with cries of "Down with Bourassa and those who ally themselves with him," and a most unusual and enthusiastic scene took place.

"I thought I was an old man," began Sir Wilfrid, who was received with long continued acclaim. "It is true according to the calendar that I have

reached the end of the span of life allotted to man, but whatever the effect of advancing years I feel as young as ever. God has blessed me with good health and I rejoice that I can carry on this to victory." (Cheers.)

An announcement of a Conservative meeting to be addressed by Sir James Whitney had been thrust into his hand. He read it to the gathering. It declared that President Taft had announced that Canada was at the parting of the ways and continued, "The question to be settled is whether it shall be the way of the British Empire or of the United States."

"There is no such choice for Canada as I know the Canadian people," declared the premier amid cheers. "We will take our trade from President Taft, but we will not take our politics from President Taft. Make no mistake about it. (Renewed cheers.) If it be true that President Taft has the ideals which the anti-reciprocity Conservative campaigners attribute to him, which I doubt, then I say, 'Sir, you do not know what you are talking about. We are prepared to talk business with you in matters of trade, but in the matter of politics keep on your own side of the line.'"

President Taft has stated that he had no thought of intention of annexation and I believe him to be absolutely honest in saying, but if it were otherwise then I would say to him, 'Sir, make no mistake. We want to sell to you, but if you don't want to buy our products we will not sell you our nationality.'"

Ottawa Meeting.
Ottawa, Sept. 8.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier will close his campaign with a meeting in Ottawa on the evening of Monday, September 18. He will speak in the afternoon at Rockland in support of Hon. Chas. Murphy. After the meeting Sir Wilfrid will go to Quebec, where he will hear election results on September 21.

DORY STRIKES ROCK;
SAILOR IS MAROONED

Heavy Weather Prevents Men on Schooner From Rescuing Comrade For Days

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 8.—After braving the rough weather off Schunagan Island in the Behring Sea for five months, the codfish schooner Maid of Orleans, Capt. Jacobson, arrived in port yesterday. The schooner reported a catch of 70,000, which is considered only a fair season's work.

During the month of May a Norwegian sailor named Ness was carried ashore in his dory, which was dashed to pieces on the rocks. Rough weather prevented Capt. Jacobson sending boats after him for four days, and Ness was marooned on the lonely shore. He was furnished food by the natives. After the weather became more favorable the schooner sent boats after him, but he was returned to the schooner.

The Maid of Orleans sailed from Seattle on April 18. She sighted the schooner cutter Rush near Unimak Pass, but no other vessel while she was in the north.

MEDICAL TRAINING SCHOOL.

Vancouver, Sept. 7.—With a view as much of supplying free medical attendance to the poor of the city, as of giving prospective missionaries to foreign countries a medical training, the Central Methodist church has decided to establish a Medical Missionary Training School, and in connection therewith a dispensary in the church building. The school will be in charge of Dr. Ernest Hall, and it will be controlled by a board of management of five members.

The workers among the foreign element in Vancouver have found that the poor of the city suffer alone, that it is not easy to persuade them that the hospital is for them as much as for others, and that they keep as far away from a doctor, even could they afford one. They have also found that a little knowledge of medicine and practical surgery goes a very long way toward rendering a qualified physician unnecessary. This is more especially so when they are "on the spot" and the doctor is not. A missionary who penetrates into the homes and lives of the least of the citizens of Vancouver, they argue, should take with him a knowledge that will cure their physical ills, and at the same time put their minds in a more receptive mood to swallow spiritual medicine.

Taking all these matters into consideration the Central Methodist church has planned that its missionaries shall have at least a secondary medical training. It was decided that the school would commence its sessions on October 2, and that a portion of the church would be turned into a dispensary.

There are times when it is better to be imposed upon than it is to fight.

DIVER'S UNIQUE TASK.

Whole Train Falls Into Water at Tacoma When Snow Unsets.

Tacoma, Wash., Sept. 8.—It is not often that a diver is called on to lift a complete railroad and some of its equipment from the bottom of the bay, yet it is on such work that Walter McCarty, a local diver, is working at the DeLancey Mill Company's plant on the north waterfront.

Equipped with a logging railroad consisting of six cars, 78 steel rails and 10 tons of spikes, destined for one of the company's logging camps on the Sound, a scow docked at the DeLancey mill was dumped, her cargo going into 28 feet of water.

The diver engaged in raising the wreckage recovered the six cars and 26 rails. The cars, including the trucks, weighed about eight tons each, while the rails weigh about 450 pounds each. The work will continue to-day, and by to-night the diver expects to have the water-soaked railroad back on the dock.

RACES IN ENGLAND.

Derby, Eng., Sept. 8.—Blarney Stone, owned by James H. Keene, won the Elvanstone nursery plate of 200 sovereigns, a race for two-year-olds, run here to-day. The Gold Crest dilly was second, and H. P. Whitney's Melba, gelding three-year-old horses ran a distance which was five furlongs straightaway.

The Pavril Peak plate, a race for 1,000 sovereigns for three-year-olds and upward, a straight mile course, was won by H. P. Whitney's Whiskbroom. Sunspot was second and Mustappa third. Twelve horses ran.

POISON IN FOOD.

Barre, Vt., Sept. 8.—Charged with attempting to poison her husband, against whom she had instituted divorce proceedings, Mrs. D. Smith is held here under bonds of \$2,500. On Saturday her husband was taken violently ill after eating his supper and was near death's door for over a day. The food is said to have contained Paris green.

MAY EXTEND BUSINESS.

Winnipeg, Sept. 8.—Thomas Tweddal, of West Hartlepool, Eng., president of the English Co-operative Wholesale Society, and vice-president of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, and T. Lobbo, of Manchester, chief buyer for the Manchester branch of the English Co-operative Society, are here on their way to Vancouver in connection with extending the society's business on the coast.

DISABLED BOAT WINS RACE.

Astoria, Ore., Sept. 8.—Wigwag II, the speedy motor boat of Astoria, for the second time turned turtle and sank to the bottom of the Columbia river after the finish of a race. Within 300 yards from the line the Wigwag II struck a floating log, which dislodged her rudder, throwing it against the wharf. Pilot Brinkley seized a broken oar, and while Engineer Reed plugged broken pipes with his bare fingers, steered the fast sinking craft over to the line, winning the race. Later the craft was raised.