

The Semi-Weekly Telegraph.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1905.

NO. 43.

VOL. XLIII.

STADLOCK OF EQUITABLE DIRECTORS COMPROMISED

Committee Appointed to Formulate Mutualizing Scheme for Company

Mr. Hyde Elected to Former Position, So Are the Rest of the Old Officials - Notable Gathering of New York Magnates at the Annual Meeting - Lawson Makes Crazy Offer for Control of Stock.

New York, Feb. 16.—James W. Alexander and James H. Hyde were re-elected president and first vice-president respectively of the Equitable Life Assurance Society at the adjourned meeting of the stockholders today.

The directors present at today's meeting included James W. Alexander, James H. Hyde, Chauncey M. Depew, H. C. Deming, Jacob H. Schiff, T. D. Jordan, C. B. Alexander, Valentine P. Snyder, John Jacob Astor, Gage E. Tarbell, Clayton L. Kopp, Alvin W. Kreech, H. M. Alexander, Charles Stewart Smith, Henry C. Frick, William Alexander, August Belmont, E. H. Harriman, T. T. Eckert, and Sidney Dillon Ripley.

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ERRIBLE EXPLOSION ON BRITISH SUBMARINE

our Dead and Fourteen Injured—Only One of Crew Escaped Uninjured.

Quebec, Feb. 16.—Four men were killed and fourteen injured, of whom three were in a critical condition as the result of an explosion on board the British submarine "A-9" in the harbor this morning.

The first explosion is believed to have occurred while the crew was engaged in filling the gasoline tanks, preparatory to proceeding under the harbor. The "A-9" caught fire after the first explosion.

BRITAIN WON'T LIFT CATTLE EMBARGO

Montreal, Feb. 16.—(Special)—A special London cable says: "In the House of Commons this afternoon, in reply to Captain Donelan, Nationalist M. P. for Cork, and T. R. Brien, Liberal M. P. for Perth, Eastern Division, Asylin Pelletier, junior lord of the treasury, said that the president of the board of agriculture, thought it to be undesirable to remove the cattle embargo."

MORE POWER FOR ROOSEVELT

Congress Places Him in Charge of the Panama Canal Zone

ABOLISHES COMMISSION President to Make All Appointments in Construction of Work—House Sends Back to Senate a Bill Affecting Drawback on Wheat Amended by That Body.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The naval appropriation bill today further occupied the attention of the house for a major portion of the session, but the debate was without particular incident and no material amendment was adopted.

Before taking up the naval bill, the house entered an emphatic protest against the action of the senate in amending the agricultural appropriation bill so as to interpret the drawback feature of the Dingley tariff act affecting wheat.

The bill to provide a government for the canal zone was passed without discussion. The bill gives all the rights of government of the canal zone to the president until the end of next congress.

LAWSON'S CRAZY OFFER

Boston, Mass., Feb. 16.—(Special)—Thomas W. Lawson, Boston's copper king and author of Premier Finance, today offered to buy James H. Hyde's interests in the Equitable Life Assurance Society for \$10,000,000 if Mr. Hyde would agree to furnish him with alleged evidence of frauds in connection with the society.

WILL OBJECT TO SEPARATE SCHOOLS IN NEW PROVINCES

Orange Wing in Ontario Legislature May Embarrass Whitney's Government.

Toronto, Feb. 16.—(Special)—It was stated in political circles here today that the extreme Orange wing, which has been excluded from the cabinet of Premier Whitney, is anxious that the Ontario legislature should meet before the Northwest autonomy question is settled by the parliament at Ottawa.

FORMER ST. JOHN MAN DEAD AT LYNN

George F. Anderson, One of the Leading Merchants of That Town, Passed Away Suddenly Tuesday.

WINEYARD HAVEN FLEET STILL FAST IN ICE

Vineyard Haven, Mass., Feb. 16.—The fleet of vessels reported here yesterday are still fast in the ice, which continues to cover the entire harbor and Vineyard Sound.

FIELDING TALKS ON PREFERENCE

Tells Liverpool Paper "Qualified Mutuality" is the Stand of Canada

UPPER WILLING

Montreal, Feb. 16.—(Special)—Sir Charles Fielding is here today on his way to Naples, where he will spend the balance of the winter. To-day the former premier indicated his willingness, should opportunity offer, to take part in the Chamberlain propaganda in Great Britain during the coming spring.

The interviewer stated that nothing in the shape of a qualified "mutuality" would be entertained.

TRAIN SERVICE ON INTERCOLONIAL IS DEMORALIZED

Road Tied-up by Worst Storm of Season from Moncton to Halifax, Also to Sydney.

Truro, N. S., Feb. 16.—(Special)—The present storm is the most paralyzing experienced in this vicinity for a quarter of a century. A foot and a half of snow on the level fell last night and this forenoon, drifting into every plowed out path, filling the cleared out sidewalks level fall and completely demoralizing and blocking the roads.

PLAN BOYCOTT OF THE YANKEE FREIGHT LINES

Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Freight Departments Appeal to Canadians.

Toronto, Feb. 15.—An important proposal has been made by the freight departments of the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific railway companies to the effect that wholesale merchants of Toronto and other Canadian importers should combine together and agree upon an arrangement whereby they would bring all of their shipments of goods from England by way of the systems of either of these roads, thus cutting out American steamship lines and railways.

SYDNEY WANTS TO OWN ITS LIGHTING PLANT

Sydney, N. S., Feb. 16.—(Special)—To-day a snow-storm was felt in Cape Breton much more than the one two weeks ago. Railway service had every direction is completely tied up. The last express, which left for Halifax this morning, is stalled at Grand Narrows.

TOOK NO PART IN LAST ELECTION

Mr. Emmerson Answers Query About I. C. R. Employees' Partisanship.

ANXIOUS ABOUT SIFTON

Ottawa, Feb. 16.—(Special)—Hon. H. R. Emmerson, in the house today, in reply to Geo. W. Fowler, said that C. C. Wetton, C. B. McDougall, R. S. Legere, M. C. Lockhart, M. L. Tracy and N. L. Hand were employed on the Intercolonial railway. The minister was not aware that any of the gentlemen named took an active part as political workers in the late federal election.

Replying to Mr. Letoury, the minister of marine and fisheries stated that new bait freezers at Canoe cost the government \$5,000, and a bonus for the first three years of \$4 per ton for bait frozen up to 300 tons.

WANT OF CONFIDENCE IN BALFOUR DEFEATED BY 63

Conservative Free Traders Declined to Vote With Opposition

London, Feb. 17.—The majority of 63 by which Mr. Asquith's amendment to the reply to the speech from the throne was rejected by the house of commons last night is regarded as giving the government the move in the political game and as finally disposing of any present prospect of the dissolution of parliament.

M. WITTE REPORTED TO HAVE RESIGNED

President of Czar's Cabinet Tired of the Situation—Japs to Save Fifty Vessels at Port Arthur—Gen. Gripenberg Back in St. Petersburg—Stakelberg Wounded.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 16, 7:18 p. m.—M. Witte, according to the latest report, has resigned his position as president of the committee of ministers on account of differences with Minister of Agriculture Yermoloff over the conduct of the proceedings of that body.

STRIKERS DEMAND COMRADES' RELEASE

St. Petersburg, Feb. 16.—The employees of the Putiloff Iron Works appeared at the works this morning but instead of resuming their tasks demanded as a condition of going to work the release of their comrades, who are under arrest.

JAPS TO SAVE FIFTY VESSELS

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 15.—The steamship Trunton, which arrived today from Japanese ports, brought news that 50 vessels will be added to Japan's naval strength as a result of salvage operations now being conducted at Port Arthur.

WANT OF CONFIDENCE IN BALFOUR DEFEATED BY 63

Conservative Free Traders Declined to Vote With Opposition

Lord Hugh Cecil, in the Speech of His Life, Assailed His Cousin's, the Premier, Policy—Belief Now That the Government Will Steer Through Session Safely—Sir Anthony McDonnell Made a Mistake.

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The real event of the night's debate was the brilliant speech delivered by Lord Hugh Cecil, which is admitted both by friends and opponents to have been his finest oratorical effort and one of the best speeches delivered in the house of commons since the Gladstone-Salisbury period and placing Lord Hugh in the forefront of possible leaders of the Conservative party.

ST. ANTHONY MCDONNELL'S MISTAKE

The alleged gaffe of Sir Anthony McDonnell, under secretary to the lord lieutenant of Ireland, with Irish Nationalist aspirations and the under secretary's connection with Lord Darnley's reform scheme advocated by the Irish Reform Association were made the subject of a question in the house of commons this afternoon.

STAKELBERG WOUNDED

London, Feb. 16.—The Daily Telegraph's Shanghai correspondent reports that General Stakelberg and three Russian infantry colonels were wounded in the fighting on the Hun River.

GRIPPENBERG BACK HOME

St. Petersburg, Feb. 16.—General Gripenberg, recently commander of the second army in Manchuria, arrived here at midnight.

PEACE TALK AT WASHINGTON

Washington, Feb. 16.—"Peace talk is like Washington weather—variable," said Mr. Takahara, the Japanese minister, today, as he was leaving the State Department after a long talk with Secretary Hay, an incident which, despite the frequency of its occurrence, always sets aside "peace rumors."

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