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THE DAILY TELEGRAPH
THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH
THE EVENING TIMES
New Brunswick's Independent Newspapers.
These newspapers advocate:
British connection
Honesty in public life
Measures for the material progress and moral advancement of our great Dominion
No graft!
No deals!
The Thistle, Shamrock, Rose entwined,
The Maple Leaf forever.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph
and The News
ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 31, 1910.

DIVIDENDS AND THE PUBLIC
It is the business of those who control public utility companies to secure dividends for their stockholders—which is quite a different thing from providing dividends, or a dividend, for the public which owns the public utility franchise and entrusts it to a private corporation. That extremely conservative newspaper, the New York Post, gives an instance that should be of interest to everybody, showing how the struggle for dividends causes public utility companies to ignore public rights. The Post says:

"Anybody who thinks that regulation of city railroads by a public authority is the same thing as complete control and management will do well to consider earnestly the proceedings at yesterday's hearing before the Public Service Commission. The difficulty of the commission is having in getting its explicit orders complied with makes apparent after that everybody can understand. Less than all the pains the commission took, some weeks ago, to insure proper accommodations for the public at those hours when there is no physical difficulty whatever in providing such accommodations, it appears that the Interborough has been pursuing its old policy of squeezing the lemon for all it is worth, with very little regard for the commission's orders."

Having Canadian conditions in mind the Toronto Star makes this comment on the facts presented by the Post:
"The case is presented here in a nutshell. Give a franchise to a private company and its first and chief care will be to make money out of the service—to squeeze the lemon. The Post seems to place its faith in competition, and competition is undoubtedly a great defence for the public. But where there is no competition, the managers of the concern are left absolutely without any motive except that of earning dividends. Put a man in a place where his livelihood and reputation depend solely upon making money, and he will strive to make money by all means. Put him in a place where his reputation depends upon public service, and he will serve the public, even for a modest remuneration. Herein lies the strength of the case for public ownership."

THE POWER OF THE PHRASE
"Ireland and dollar dictation" is said to have proved a very effective phrase and influenced many votes in the recent British elections. The dollar in England suggests all forms of sinister machinations. Another form of this phrase was, "Will you be ruled by the American dollar or the British sovereign?" Many other watchwords, catchwords and phrases of suggestion proved effective in influencing the voters. "A strong and efficient second chamber" is one by which the Unionists hoped to pile up votes for privilege. This phrase was most effectively answered by Churchill: "For what purpose should it

be strong and efficient? Strong to resist the people and efficient to mutilate all Liberal legislation?
Even the educated classes are victims of the phrase. Phrases are artifices of suggestion. They are rhetorical flourishes adapted to the pet notions of the time. They are the tricks of the medicine man adapted to an age when all read and write and when common schools are everywhere. Instead of the rattle of a drum or the shaking of a gourd the operator moulds into easy phrases the sentiments that are popular. It is only a difference of method. One is appropriate to an age, rude and barbaric, the other with unctious, solemnity and rhetorical skill makes its appeal to ours. These phrases are like token coins. They "pass," that is their most noteworthy characteristic. They will always be current to above their value. They appeal to all classes.

America has been a fruitful field for the invention and use of the phrase and catchword. "The dollar of the fathers," "Sixteen to one," "The key of the Pacific," are some of the recent coinages. They have great power when they are antithetical or alliterative. Some opponents of the silver proposition were quite perplexed by the saying: "The white man with the yellow metal is beaten by the yellow man with the white metal." In 1844 the alliterative watchword "Fifty-four forty or fight" nearly provoked a war. If it had been fifty-nine thirty or fight, it would not have had nearly so great effect. The "Cape to Cairo" railroad is another case of alliteration. There are words which are used currently as if their meaning was perfectly simple, clear, and unambiguous, which are not defined at all. What is that "Wall Street" which is currently spoken of by public men and editors as thinking, wanting, working for certain things? "Wall Street" takes the place which used to be assigned to the devil. "Democracy," "The People," "Americanism," are other examples. Who dares to criticize democracy? It is not treated as a parallel word to aristocracy or autocracy, but as a power from some outside origin which brings into human affairs an inspiration and energy of its own. If a thing is to be recommended which cannot be justified it is said to be patriotic, or democratic, or some such term is applied to it that is supposed to save it from criticism and let it pass. Phrases of this kind carry a corollary with them and overwhelm people who are not trained to verify assertions and dissect fallacies.

Much of our public discussion today is falling under the tyranny of the phrase. In current discussion we hear of "rent slavery," "debt slavery," "wage slavery," "marriage slavery." A man who has contracted duties and obligations of any nature or who has been born into them as citizen is not free. A man who has made a contract is not free. The common use of the words bears witness to great confusion and error in the popular notions of what freedom is or can be. We cannot imagine ourselves "free" from the conditions of human life. But it does not do any good to stigmatize the case as "slavery" when what is meant is that a man is under the necessity of earning his living. It would be a great advance if the people should learn to turn away in contempt from all this rhetoric. It is absolutely essential to correct thinking and successful discussion to reject stereotyped forms, and to insist on analysis and verification.

PRIMARIES JANUARY 12
Liberals, not only in St. John city and county but throughout the province, will read with interest and pleasure the announcement made in The Telegraph's news columns this morning, that primaries are to be held on January 12 to choose delegates to a nominating convention at which both Federal and local candidates will be nominated. That convention, in a word, will not only select a running-mate for Hon. Dr. Pugsley, but will name also candidates for the city and county for the local Legislature.

Tuesday's meeting of the Liberal executive, at which the Minister of Public Works and others delivered strong and well considered addresses on the political questions of the day, set an example that could be followed with profit in other counties, by recognizing the Liberal party as one body of electors and proposing, therefore, to mass the strength of the party in a single convention and to select candidates for the provincial as well as the Federal Parliament.

It may be well, in this connection, to recall the sweeping triumph of the Liberals in the last Federal contest in New Brunswick, and to keep in mind that in that contest Mr. Hazen threw the already waning strength of his provincial organization into the fight in aid of the Borden forces from one end of New Brunswick to the other. The Liberals carried eleven out of thirteen seats on that occasion, and neither party has forgotten the salient features of the struggle—or its result.

THE HORRORS OF PEACE
Carnegie is giving his millions toward putting an end to the long and deadly sport of war between nations, but meanwhile his own peaceful industry at Pittsburgh is piling up its record of slaughter, and when to it like added the other victims of the industrial conflict all over the land, one realizes that the horrors of war are insignificant when compared with the horrors of peace. During the four years of the civil war about 150,000 men were killed in the two armies or died of wounds afterwards. At the present rate the United States does to death an equal number in only seventeen months.

Every twelve weeks of last year there were more violent deaths in that country than the Union armies suffered in the twelve bloodiest battles of the war. Gettysburg was the greatest battle in that war, and it is said that after Pickett's famous charge one could walk across the field in front of Cemetery Ridge without touching foot to the ground. But in these times of undisturbed peace they kill enough men, women and children in one year to furnish nineteen fields of Gettysburg with corpses. The horrors of peace are as endless as the procession of the years. Wars come to an end, but the toll paid to the field of industry is never ending. In the last twelve years the United States has had two wars in which the total number of casualties was less than 6,000, and only a fraction of those fatal. In the same time by accident or violence more than a million were killed, while the number of non-fatal accidents was vastly larger.

Our modern civilization, based on the use of forces which we imperfectly and carelessly control, is a car of Juggernaut which rolls relentlessly on, leaving its mutilated victims in its track. There is great peril in grasping power faster than we learn to master it, or faster than we develop a sense of moral responsibility for its exercise. And it is a lack of moral responsibility that is largely responsible for it. The democracy of New Zealand runs its railways so humanely and conscientiously that in some years not a single passenger or railway man is killed. Their experience proves that much of the slaughter on the railways of this country and the United States is needless. This slaughter is due to the fact that the laws regarding life saving appliances are disregarded, because men are overworked, because incompetents are put on when life depends on competence, and because profits, instead of being devoted to improved service, are used for quite other things. A son, brother or friend of the manager should be forced to ride in the caboose of every freight and in the front of every passenger train. This would quickly create and apply a new conscience to railway management. Of a given number of railway employees the United States kills nearly three times as many and injures more than five times as many as Great Britain; and they kill two and a half times as many and injure five times as many as Germany. In an investigation of the railway accidents in Germany they found that about fifty-three per cent of them were avoidable. It would seem that more than three-quarters of the accidents on American railways could be avoided.

In this piping time of peace, the industrial vocations of the United States cost more lives every two days than all she lost in the war with Spain. There are more killed on her railways every two years than the entire loss in the Boer war on both sides in three years. These armies were equipped with all the weapons of death which ingenuity could devise and they made destruction their eager business, but here is a mortality greater than that of battles and a greater maiming of life and limb by the machinery of peace than that of war. By far the greater number of accidents are preventable. If an accident is needless somebody is to blame, and acquiescence in it is an insult to man and to Providence. The public needs to learn that this frightful butchery is unnecessary and barbarous. It is a war on humanity which will cease as soon as the public is aroused. As the people under our system of government are the ultimate source of authority, so they are most to blame, for authority and responsibility are commensurate.

It is time for the public to learn that this wounding and killing—more frightful than that of war—is largely unnecessary. It is high time to take some active measures to stop it. In no better way can the United States and Canada commemorate the hundred years of peace than by arranging some effective way of concentrating the attention of the public upon the perils of peace. If we gave but a tithing of our self-seeking and self-destructive business energy to caring for the children and the toilers we could save them, and ourselves, and the country.

NOTE AND COMMENT
Dartmouth's ferry plebiscite is of interest here just now. They have good ferry steamers in Halifax harbor, but there is a call for better. It was found that a steel steamer could be built in Glasgow for \$80,000. Mark the price. It was decided by Tuesday's vote to have a wooden boat built in Canada.

THE PROVINCIAL ACCOUNTS
The Telegraph publishes this morning a statement of the provincial accounts issued by the Hazen government, together with a critical analysis of the figures and pretensions of the administration, in interviews with Hon. C. W. Robinson, leader of the Opposition, and Mr. A. B. Copp, M. P. P. Hon. Mr. Fleming's remarkable figures are bound to be the subject of lively comment for some time to come, and it will be found that the statements of Messrs. Robinson and Copp, which will demand more extended review hereafter, pretty thoroughly expose the extravagance of the Hazen administration and the methods by which it arrives at its small book-keeping surplus.

TRIBUTE TO CANADA'S BANKING SYSTEM
Big Paid-up Capital and Reserve Create Confidence—Nothing in the Law Relating to Reserves—On This Point Each General Manager Makes Rules.
Washington, Dec. 22.—That Canada has never had a currency panic similar to that experienced by the United States in 1907 was one of the many interesting facts relating to Canadian banking and currency views held by a sub-committee of the National Monetary Commission. This committee, consisting of Messrs. Vreeland, Weeks and Honynge, visited Canada for the purpose of obtaining views on the banking system of the Dominion. Their interviews with leading bankers have now been published in the form of a report, and answer, as stenographically reported, in a volume entitled "Interviews on the Banking and Currency Systems of Canada. The reasons of this freedom from panics appear in the following conversation which took place between the committee and officials of the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Question—You may have had runs upon individual banks or upon branches; doubtless have, I suppose. You never have had a widespread currency panic as we had?
Mr. McLeod—Our people do not seem to have got the run habit.
Mr. Coulston—They do not care.
Question—One very good reason for it appears here, that of taking over banks treated as insolvent, and closing their doors in the ordinary way and having an association and liquidating them; their notes are good, their deposits are secure; of course all of those things help to preserve confidence in the public in your banking system and do away with runs, but perhaps in a country the size of the United States it would be impossible for us to run upon those lines. I mean to have an association and keep track of the banks and take them over and liquidate them.
Mr. Coulston—The Canadian banking system has never been in such a stress as you have. If we had been run upon for anything like the extent you were in 1907 we do not know where we would be. We would be simply in a universal suspension until we gained a head. The standing of all the banks is such, and their securities spread from one end of the country to the other, that it would be almost impossible to create a want of confidence in them as you hold out. On account of their strong positions with their large paid-up capital and large paid-up reserves, none of the banks have ever had any trouble in that way. Supporting and standing by each other gives the confidence, and liquidating different banks, and paying off the depositors, all helps, and we have a large paid-up capital and paid-up reserve, and when the monthly returns are issued from month to month and the people can see them.

The following story, told by Henry C. McLeod, general manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia, shows the way in which the volume of Canadian bank note currency adjusts itself to varying conditions:
In sitting here discussing this subject, it has struck me that one of my earlier experiences in banking. It was in an isolated community where the operations were buying and shipping grain. This bank had a capital of \$100,000. Under the provisions of the act, it was authorized to issue \$1 of its capital in circulation. On one Saturday evening all our circulation was outstanding. Over Sunday the winter set in, the harbors froze up, the vessels had to put back, and the grain could not be shipped. By the middle of the week our circulation was much reduced; we had received exchange for the cargoes, and within a month the circulation was down to normal. The notes that were not cashed were put back to the farmer, they had been paid by the farmer to the shopkeeper, and by the shopkeeper deposited in the bank. The shopkeeper had bought out bills on London, and he had to pay them to the bank, and the whole operation was completed. When an elastic currency is spoken of, I often think of that example of elasticity.

Canadian banking law makes no requirement as to the amount of the reserve to be held beyond the stipulation that 40 per cent of it shall be in dominion notes. A number of the bankers interviewed expressed the opinion that the establishment of any fixed reserve such as we have in this country would produce more harm than good, this being a matter which they hold should be left to the banks. That the Banking Association, to which the charter of the Bank of Montreal, the Bank of Nova Scotia, the Canadian Pacific, and the whole operation was completed. When an elastic currency is spoken of, I often think of that example of elasticity.

THE FARMERS' DEMANDS
(Toronto Star.)
The Western farmers ask that the Hudson Bay Railway be constructed, owned, and operated in perpetuity by the Dominion government, under an independent commission. This is the only way to insure that the benefit of the railway will go to the farmers of the West and the people of Canada. Government construction alone is not sufficient. If the people of Canada undertake the expense and risk of constructing the road, they ought to control it absolutely. They certainly ought not to part with the ownership, and they should be very reluctant to make any agreement for operation which will weaken public control. The railway will be used as an outlet for three railways, if not more—the Grand Trunk Pacific, the Canadian Pacific, and the Canadian Northern. No one of these should control it. The control should rest with the government absolutely, and only running rights should be given to the existing railways and any others that may be established. No railway or combination of railways should be master of the situation. That position should be held by the government, or by a commission in which the Western farmers are strongly represented. Government ownership and control of elevators is also a public necessity. Sir Wilfrid Laurier speaks of the importance of

keeping up the standard of our grain in Europe. That is essential, but still more vital is it that the farmer shall get his fair share of the price received in Europe or elsewhere. He should not be at the mercy of any private individual or corporation as to the grade of his grain. That should be determined by a public, impartial authority. The farmers' deputation will strengthen the hands of the government in its efforts to obtain a large measure of reciprocity with the United States. Sir Wilfrid Laurier says that "there is in this country in some sections a strong opposition to changed tariffs. I do not share these views, and I may say that my colleagues do not. I believe that if this government can obtain free markets for farm products the country will be immensely benefited." The opening up of the American market to Canadian farmers would do much to free them from the domination of railways, owners of elevators and other middlemen. The premier says that there will be greater difficulty in dealing with manufacturers, but the government will make no mistake if it works for as large a measure of reciprocity as possible. And if sufficient relief cannot be obtained in this way, some more may be done by increasing the tariff preference, as the Western and Ontario farmers suggest.

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Dr. Cook, "the cold, disgusted, scornful look of those I meet, who whisper 'shame!' and talk about a bunco game, and say 'I'd prove I had some worth by falling off the weary earth. But when they read my sad appeal, and realize how tough I feel, and know how I regret my breaks, they may forgive my little fakes, and take me to their hearts one more, and save me where my wounds are sore!" If old Doc Cook would stow his jaw, and get a sawbuck and a saw, or buy a plow and hit the soil, and get a down to honest toil, he'd have a better chance to earn the boot for which he seems to yearn. The world will pardon any jay who shucks his coat and works all day; but it grows weary of the skate who's talking early, talking late, who tries to win the love of men with jaw-bone and with fountain pen.

AGRICULTURE AND PROSPERITY
About forty per cent of the population of Canada is engaged in agriculture. Five years ago this country raised about three per cent of the wheat crop of the world; seven per cent of the oats; four per cent of the barley; a fair proportion of Indian corn, rye and potatoes. She also raised a total of over six millions of cattle, horses, sheep and swine. Her growth and influence in agriculture have been very marked since these figures were compiled. The West has really been discovered within the last few years, and hundreds of thousands have flocked in from all lands, most of them being practical farmers.

Canada is primarily an agricultural country. She has untold wealth in her forests, and mines, and fisheries, but most of all in her fertile soil and wide prairies. These facts emphasize the importance of the farmers' deputation to Ottawa recently. They show, however, only the direct importance of agriculture. Indirectly it influences all occupations. If the agricultural population is prosperous, it must affect every other class, and vice versa. This is not only because every man, woman and child must consume the products of agriculture, but because the size of the farm population makes it the one great market for almost all manufactured articles which relate to the necessities of life, and because they not only furnish the great bulk of material for commerce, but now promise to affect politics more directly and intelligently than ever before.

This is as it should be, for their influence is bound to be wholesome: there is no occupation so affected by the varying social and political conditions of man as agriculture. Yet, important as is, agriculture today faces the most serious problems in all the great countries in the world. The drift of population to the cities, and of industry to manufacturing and trade, has meant to a serious extent the decline of agriculture. Mr. James J. Hill says that "agriculture, in the most intelligent meaning of the term, is something almost unknown in the United States." "There is," he adds, "except in isolated and individual cases, little approaching intensive agriculture. There are only the annual skimming of the rich cream, the exhaustion of virgin fertility, the extraction from the earth by the most rapid process of its productive powers, the deterioration of life's sole maintenance. And all this with that army of another hundred million people marching in plain sight toward us and expecting and demanding that they should be fed."

The tendency has been toward the worship of manufacture and trade as the only forms of progressive activity. And today all that the farmer buys, and the transport and marketing of his crops, are passing under the control of the monopolist and organizer of trade, while agriculture itself is the most difficult occupation to organize, so that often the agriculturist seems to have to cope single-handed with a market under the bonds of combination. If the farmers will combine, not to secure special legislation for their own selfish advantage—they are not asking for that—but for the removal of conditions that make monopoly possible and for the spread of education as the best methods of increasing the value of their farms—the whole country must benefit. Cheap railway transportation and better conditions of sale can be obtained only if the farmers will combine. What has hitherto been lacking is the desire of combination, and only in a few localities has this defect been overcome.

What characterizes the agriculture of Europe is the prevalence of combination. In Denmark, Germany, France, Italy, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, there are networks of co-operative societies all over the country—societies for the co-operative purchase of seeds, manure, implements and machinery, co-operative creameries for the production of butter and cheese, egg-collecting societies, societies for the sale of fruit and grain, export societies, mutual insurance societies, and so on. And in nearly every case these movements are fostered by the state. They are, also, proving not only beneficial to the farmers but to the whole country. Much can be accomplished by agricultural co-operation in Canada. The local governments can assist by establishing more model farms and encouraging agricultural education and scientific farming. The ideal of co-operation among the farmers should be proclaimed from the editorial office, from the platform, and from every little school-house in the country. The importance of agricultural expansion in New Brunswick today is one of the leading questions of the hour.

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The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co.
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Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC.
A Perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and LOSS OF SLEEP.
Fac Simile Signature of Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co. NEW YORK.
16 months old 35 Doses - 35 CENTS.
EXACT COPY OF WRAPPER.

FAMOUS GEMS OF PROSE
WESTMINSTER ABBEY
By Washington Irving

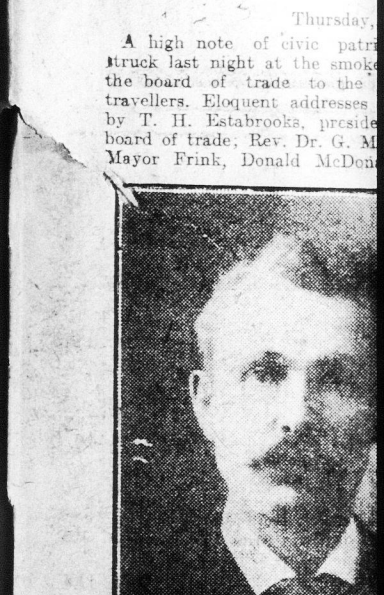
THE approach to the abbey through gloomy monastic remains, prepares the mind for its solemn contemplation. The gray walls are discolored by damp and crumbling with age; a coat of hoary moss has gathered over the inscriptions of the mural monuments and obscured the death's heads, and other funeral emblems. The sharp touches of the chisel are gone from the rich tracery of the arches; the roses which adorn the keystones have lost their leafy beauty; everything bears marks of the gradual dilapidations of time which yet has something touching and pleasing in its very decay.

The sun was pouring down a yellow autumnal ray into the square of the cloisters; beaming upon a scanty plot of grass in the center and lighting up an angle of the vaulted passage with a dusty splendor. From between the arcades the eye glanced up to a bit of blue sky or a passing cloud; and beheld the sun-gilt pinnacle of the abbey towering into the azure heaven. The day was gradually wearing away. The distant tread of loiterers about the abbey grew less and less frequent; the sweet-tongued bell was summoning to evening prayers. A flight of stairs led up to the entrance of Henry the Seventh's chapel through a deep and gloomy, but magnificent arch. Great gages of brass, richly and delicately wrought, turn heavily on their hinges, as if proudly reluctant to admit the feet of common mortals into its most gorgeous of sepulchers. On entering, the eye is astonished by the pomp of architecture and the elaborate beauty of sculptured detail. The very walls are wrought into universal ornament, encrusted with tracery and crowded with the statues of saints and martyrs. Stone seems—by the cunning labor of the chisel—to have been robbed of its weight and density, suspended aloft as if by magic, and the fretted roof achieved with the wonderful minuteness and airy security of a cobweb. What, however, is this vast assemblage of sepulchers but a treasury of humiliation! It is, indeed, the empire of death; his great, shadowy palace; where he sits in state, mocking at the relics of human glory and spreading dust and forgetfulness on the monuments of princes.

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ST. JOHN WITH
Optimistic Spectator
at Smoker
Day of East is at
Declares President
Board of Trade
Inspiring Addresses
Dr. Campbell and
—West India Man
High Tribute to
and St. John—May
Refers to City's Progress
and Predicts Great
Development at This
Successful Event.



A high note of civic patriotism struck last night at the smoker of the board of trade to the travellers. Eloquent addresses were made by T. H. Estabrook, president of the board of trade, Rev. Dr. G. M. Mayor Frink, Donald McDougall, and others.

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