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THE EVENING TIMES.

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JOHN RUSSELL, JR., President. A. M. BELDING, Editor.

RESPONSIBLE HEADS

The various civic boards will do well if they decide to invest the heads of departments with more power, and then hold them strictly to account for a proper discharge of their duties. The criticism of the ferry management at the last meeting of the council might have been more impressive if it had come from an alderman in no way connected with any of the ferry officials, for there was certainly room for criticism. If by investing the superintendent with more power there is any hope of improvement, no time should be lost in doing it, even if, as the Telegraph suggests, he should be given a superintendent's salary. But if there is any doubt about the matter, nothing will be gained by delaying a complete reorganization. The aldermen waste too much time discussing matters that should be settled by the heads of departments.

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC

The launching of the second of the great Canadian Pacific steamships for the Canadian trade with Britain is an event of much importance. This company, with its railway and steamship lines, ever reaching out for more business and providing the means to handle it with care and promptness; with its extensive lands in western Canada to attract the immigrant, and its agencies scattered over the world to tell of Canada and its resources, is one of the great factors in the upbuilding of the Dominion. St. John is the Atlantic terminus of the railway line, and must derive increasing benefit from this relation. The great new steamers will doubtless come to this port next winter, and there seems at least a possibility of a C. P. R. summer service, in the not distant future. The great need of the port is such an extension of harbor facilities as will provide room for the continuous development of ocean borne traffic to and from the west. For sooner or later other railway lines are expected to add to this traffic at this port, and in the meantime the C. P. R. will inevitably handle increasing quantities of cargo as the development of the west proceeds.

BRITISH POLITICS

The overwhelming defeat of the Unionist party in the United Kingdom is significant of more than a passing discontent with a political party. It is suggestive of an unrest, due to altered conditions of life, which demands changes in the general policy of the government, without perhaps being quite certain what the nature of those changes should be. If the new government can improve the situation it will retain its hold upon power, but if its policy does not solve the problem of the unemployed and improve the material condition of the working classes, the same unrest that defeated Mr. Balfour will do as much for the new premier and his colleagues.

The presence of fifty representatives of labor in the new house will materially alter its complexion, and, as the press despatches suggest, will tend to a breaking down of old party lines. The government's enormous majority will at the outset make it independent of all parties, and if it has any radical changes in domestic or imperial policy to propose it also has the power to carry them into effect. No British premier has ever had a more emphatic endorsation from the people, or a finer opportunity to develop his policy. The opposition, though compact and united, is too small to make an effective showing at the outset, and the country will be disposed to give the new government a free hand at the beginning of its career.

So far as the colonies are concerned they will watch closely the unfolding of Sir Henry's policy with regard to interimperial relations. They have the assurance of the premier and his colleagues that their desire is not to alienate but to draw closer the bonds of union. In what way this is to be done remains an open question.

SIGNIFICANT FIGURES

The annual report of the Montreal Board of Trade is always interesting, and its review of the state of affairs in Canada in 1905 is especially instructive and encouraging. After referring to the growth and prosperity of the Dominion during the year the report says:—

"The prominent features of this prosperity have been the harvesting of the largest and best crop the Northwest has yet produced, the inflow of new capital, the financing and beginning of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, heavy immigration, large exports of dairy and field products, progress of the steel, iron and coal industries, growth of the milling business and general activity of manufacturing enterprises throughout the country.

"The import and export trade of the country for the calendar year amounted to over $470,000,000, which is about double the total of its foreign trade ten years ago. In the same period of time the chartered banks of Canada have increased their deposits by upward of $60,000,000, while the bank clearing are about $261,000,000 in excess of what they were for the year 1904.

"A conservative estimate of new capital invested in the country during the twelve months places the amount as between $60,000,000 and $70,000,000. Of this sum, $30,000,000 have been for the new transcontinental line, while the remainder has gone into developing electrical powers, new manufacturing industries, the purchase of land in the Northwest and in other sections, and the purchase of municipal bonds and debentures by English capitalists. This sum does not take into account the funds which have come into the country with the inflow of population, and which it would be almost impossible to estimate.

"The farmers' returns from dairy produce the past year were the largest on record. High prices prevailed throughout the year for both butter and cheese. While the total shipments abroad of the latter were slightly behind the figures of 1904, the increased price obtained by the farmer made the season's work much more profitable. Then the butter production was largely in excess of any former year, and prices thereof uniformly high; the two results combined placing the farmer at the close of 1905 in a much better position than at any former period.

"In other products which come primarily from the farm, such, for instance, as bacon and flour, there were also large increases in the export trade.

"In the iron and steel industries commendable progress had been made, and the plants at Sydney and Sault Ste. Marie are now working ahead, with every indication of success."

RATHER INDEFINITE

Secretary Haldane is quoted as having made this statement concerning imperial federation:—

"The Liberal government is not going to let the colonies slip away. Not by fiscal bands of gold, but by the silver bonds of common interest, tradition, and Imperial ideas, are we most likely to keep the colonies. The breath of Imperial organization is freedom. It is our duty to try and keep that spirit from being weakened."

This is delightfully indefinite, but the secretary further said if he had his way they would have a department to the government in which information about the common business of the Empire should constantly be collected and questions investigated, pending examination from time to time by Imperial conferences.

It would be interesting to know what Secretary Haldane's attitude would be if these conferences decided in favor of what he styles "fiscal bonds of gold."

At the next meeting of the Ottawa city council this resolution will be considered: "That, whereas, all efforts in the past have failed to secure large industries for Ottawa; and, whereas, the rapid filling up and development of our great Northwest, and indeed, the development of all our great national resources is causing an ever increasing demand for many lines of manufactured goods, which the many natural advantages, combined with the splendid rail and water facilities for shipment make Ottawa the most desirable location for many branches of industry in Canada; therefore, be it resolved, that this council take immediate steps to establish a municipal publicity department for the purpose of giving all necessary information to those seeking location and also get after business as it seldom if ever comes unsought."

Speaking of church union, it is pleasing to note that all Protestant denominations are working together in the work of moral reform in the new provinces. The Toronto Globe says:—"Rev. Dr. S. D. Chown has just returned from the Northwest, where he has been for some three weeks in the interests of temperance and moral reform. He met and conferred with the committees from the Anglican dioceses of Saskatchewan and Qu'Appelle, the Baptist Convention of the Northwest, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Manitoba and the Northwest, the Standing Committee on Temperance and Moral Reform of the Assiniboia Methodist Conference, the Royal Templars of Temperance and the Provincial Women's Christian Temperance Union of Saskatchewan, also representatives of local bodies."

More than 62,000,000 bushels of grain of this year's crop is already marketed, and of this amount 46,163,000 bushels were received at C. P. R. points. There have been no blockades, thanks to increased storage and transportation facilities.

The record of Mr. Ralph St. John Freeze, the new Rhodes scholar from this province, indicates that he will be a notable addition to the group of clever young Canadians within the walls of the ancient University.

The Citizens' League executive will complete its organization this evening. Perhaps then we shall hear of more vigorous action by that body.

PRINCIPAL SHERATON

(Toronto News)

Men who pass away, as Rev. Dr. Sheraton has done, in the plentitude of their energies and power, leave places that are hard to fill. The distinguished head of Wycliffe College was a strong and beneficent influence in both the educational and religious spheres. He was the rallying point of the evangelical school of thought in the Church of England, and as the head of its theological faculty did good and useful service. Personally, a man of kindly temperament, liberal views and constant activity, he was able to cooperate in all manner of ways with people of different outlook. In a mixed community no one could have exerted himself more energetically for toleration and good feeling than Dr. Sheraton, and the University world, in which he was no inconsiderable figure, will miss him greatly. In religious journalism he also made his mark and during the thirty years of his residence in this province has been prominent in the various educational and moral movements which have from time to time engrossed the public attention. His family and numerous friends will have the sincere sympathy of all classes.

(Toronto Globe)

The death of Principal Sheraton entails a serious loss on all the forces making for the betterment of Canada. Wycliffe College, whose first principal he was, and the Church of England in Canada, whose scholarship and power were enriched by his life, will, of course, feel the loss most keenly. But the Provincial University, and a dozen organizations and enterprises of which he was a trusted friend and a constant helper, will share in that loss.

Dr. Sheraton was himself a student, and his true place was among students. He had exceptional mental gifts, and his intellectual attainments placed him in the forefront of Canadian scholars. His specialty was theology, but his range was wide and his interests many. As a New Testament scholar, and more especially in the department of systematic theology, he was an expert. His mind was open to the results of all sound scholarship, and he was too true to the spirit and ideal of the exact scholar to accept the notion that the last word on any great problem had been spoken or to adopt as final the unproved views given currency by some great scholar's name.

In matters of criticism Principal Sheraton was intelligently conservative. He kept himself abreast of modern movements, but his dogmatic bias steadied him in the eddying stream of Biblical criticism. In theology he was pronouncedly and unabashedly evangelical. His theological relationships were as close and confidential with men like the late Principal Caven as with any within the pale of his own church. His ecclesiastical affinities were directed rather by his evangelical sympathies than by the bonds of creed or ritual.

PORT OF MONTREAL

The Montreal Board of Trade annual report says:—

"That Montreal has held its pre-eminence as a trade centre is indicated by the customs returns, which show that about one-third of the total exports and imports of the Dominion are entered at this port. In the case of imports the figures do not represent all the goods passing through this port, for much merchandise goes through in bond to other centres, and, therefore does not figure in the returns of the customs department at this point.

"The tonnage visiting the port of Montreal during the season of 1905 was the largest in the history of the port, being nearly 2,000,000 tons of sea-going craft, which is almost double the figures of 1895, and about 500,000 in excess of the average of the past ten years.

"While the St. Lawrence route suffered during the season of 1905 through several casualties to sea-going craft, two of which were serious, it is confidently expected that the improvements to the channel between Montreal and the Gulf, combined with various aids to navigation, the works in connection with which are being so vigorously prosecuted by the Dominion government, will presently remove all possibility of the occurrence of such accidents."

Cambridge, Mass., Jan. 27—Chas. L. Tucker, convicted of the murder of Mabel Page, of Weston, March 31, 1904, was today sentenced in the Middlesex Superior Court, to death by electricity during the week of June 10. When asked if he had anything to say, Tucker addressed the court as follows: "Your honor, all I have to say is that I am absolutely innocent of this crime."

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Rutter, of Fredericton, who have been the guests of Mrs. M. A. Starkie, 28 Stanley street, for the past few days, returned home Saturday evening.

Close evenings at six o'clock. St. John, Jan. 29th, 1906.

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WASHINGTON LETTER

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 18, 1906.—Tillman roars at Roosevelt. Tillman bellows, stamps, froths, fumes and gnashes his teeth. Tillman, the terrible Bengal tiger from South Carolina! Tillman Senator! Heaven help the mark, and pardon me for giving publicity to language and manners that better befit Billingsgate and the bear pit than the United States senate. Some people are wondering why the friends of the president in the senate did not rush to his defense. It would not have been in good taste to do so. Who is so foolish as to reason with mania or to argue with an infuriated bull? Exhaustion is the only remedy and only relief. It is the same Tillman that implored a pitch fork for President Cleveland, the same Tillman who attacked with his fists his colleague McLaurin on the floor of the senate, and the same whom President Roosevelt affronted by recalling an invitation to a White House dinner when he heard of his attack on McLaurin, and herein it is said, lies the cause of his hatred of the president.

The only reply to Tillman was by Senator Hale from Maine, who said, "I hope, Mr. President, that I shall never figure in this body as a general apologist either for the administration or the president, or anybody connected with him, but I say to the senator from South Carolina that he is making statements and assuming facts for which there is no warrant, and that he is making the most serious and defamatory charges against the executive of this country—the president of all the United States—having nothing whatever that he adduces as proof. I must say to the senator that I do not deem it seemly that here in the senate he should make this the occasion of discharging before us the personal feeling of ill-will he has against the president of the United States. It is not a spectacle that any of us can look upon either with satisfaction or toleration.

Everybody knows, or ought to know by this time, that the president knew nothing about the ejection of Mrs. Morris from the lobby of the White House offices until long after it occurred. Few people know, however, how difficult it is to protect the time and presence of the president from cranks, bores and lunatics, or possible dangerous persons, male and female. Who knows what they are? There is no head of a nation in the world so accessible as the present head of this nation. It has been said that all roads lead to Rome. Surely all railroads and trolleys lead to Washington and the cranks and busy bodies of the United States have more money to buy tickets or means to get free passes than any other people in the world. The president sees them singly and in battalions, but there are only twenty-four hours in a day, and although a man of great physical endurance, he finds it occasionally necessary to eat, sleep and breath fresh air. Moreover, he has on his hands little chores like the army and navy, civil service, the Panama Canal, foreign relations, represented here by nine ambassadors, the greatest number at any capital, besides ministers, charges d'affairs, and attaches of countries, who do not send representatives of ambassadorial rank. When aggressive women with original poems or doggerels in their hands storm the White House somebody must turn them aside, and when they will not heed advice and soft words, force is the only alternative, and when they resist logical force and get their clothes soiled through their own violence and foolish recalcitrancy, it is ridiculous to plead that they are refined and have on silk dresses and gloves. Those who take up for them in the house or senate are as ridiculous as their clients.

The coming marriage at the White House is the ever present subject in social circles and promises to be the source interest and, perhaps disappointment until the happy young couple shall have departed on their wedding trip. The latest announcements from a semi-official source are to the effect that only the relatives of the two families, the cabinet ministers, the supreme court justices and the foreign diplomats will be invited to witness the ceremonies and that congress, and the Washington four hundred will be omitted entirely. This is, of course, heart-breaking news to many who have already ordered gowns for the affair, but to those who never had a chance of being invited it seems a wise discrimination for preventing wider spread disappointment. The wedding gown for Miss Roosevelt is being made in Washington, and will be of white satin, for which Miss Roosevelt, notwithstanding her youth, has already had a preference. A set of magnificent silver fox furs, valued at several thousand dollars, which were a recent present to her, are being made here and, furnish the key for her going away gown, which will be of medium shade of grey with a toque of fur, trimmed with wings to match. Miss Roosevelt has never looked so well as this winter, and though there are many who profess to have never been able to discover that she was pretty, there are few now who do not admit that in her blooming health and radiant happiness, which she makes no effort to conceal, that she is an exceedingly attractive young person. The young couple at the close of a short wedding journey, will live in Washington with Mrs. Longworth, the mother of Congressman Longworth, and at the end of the congressional session they will go abroad.

It is known that reinforcements of the army in the Philippine Islands are under way and that additional regiments of infantry and batteries of field artillery will sail for the Philippines in about five weeks. It is interesting to know in this connection that the interpreter of the Chinese Legation has gone to Chicago as the representative of the Chinese minister here to meet the members of the Chinese Industrial Commission, that has just landed in this country. This commission is expected to arrive in Washington on Wednesday, the 24th inst, and will be entertained by the clerk of the state department, Charles Denby, wso speaks the language, and who has spent many years in China. John W. Foster, ex-minister to China, will give a dinner in their honor on the 26th inst., and on the following day they will be presented to Secretary Root and the president. The visiting Chinese number sixty in all, and among them are some of the most learned men of China. It is said that the Chinese Empire is keenly interested in the report of these experts and scholars of the Orient.

ANOTHER LINE FOR EASTERN CO.

Rockland, Me., Jan. 26.—It was announced today that on February 1 the Eastern Steamship Co. will take possession of the Rockland & Portland steamboat line, which was established by Captain I. E. Archibald about ten years ago. While the terms of transfer are not made public it is reported that the price paid is between $75,000 and $100,000.

The Portland line operates two steamboats, the Mineola and Monhegan, and it is said a new boat will be added to the service under the Eastern Company's control.

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