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THE SEMI-WEEKLY SUN

ST. JOHN, N. B., FEBRUARY 25, 1899

WHOSE VICTORY IS THIS?

While Mr. Blair has a good excuse for claiming the victory of Mr. Emmerson as a personal triumph, the real winner of the fight is Mr. Gibson.

This made it possible to organize the fight in St. John which has proved largely but not wholly successful.

The result was that the government got 378 votes to 66 for the opposition, whereas three years ago the government got 8 votes in Maryville to 265 for the opposition.

The organ proceeds: The big government majority obtained by the opposition candidates at Nashwaak Village in the last election was completely reversed on Saturday by that veteran campaigner, Alfred Rowley, who was assisted in the good work by H. P. Lusk.

Mr. Rowley is one of Mr. Gibson's officers. The Nashwaak vote stands 190 for the government to 52 for the opposition. Three years ago the government got 60 votes in this village and the opposition 184.

We quote again: Alex. Gibson, Sr., stood as Stanley in the interests of the government candidates, and the result of the poll at that place is pretty good evidence of the valuable assistance he was able to render.

The result at Stanley was a vote of 208 for the government to 180 for the opposition. There are many independent voters in Stanley, but the fact that the vote in the previous election was 90 for the government and 253 against it shows that Mr. Gibson did not stay there all day for nothing.

Again the organ says: Mr. Gibson's case was championed by Hubbard Miles, Jas. E. Simmons and other stalwarts, and they made a splendid showing.

Gibson gives the government 256 votes to 118 for the opposition, whereas in 1896 the government got 103 votes and the opposition only 107.

The Fredericton Herald proceeds to show that this influence was not confined to York. It says: The liberals of St. John recognize the assistance they received from Mr. Alexander Gibson in Saturday's election, and it is masterfully added in their own full ticket.

Notice that the Herald does not say the men who worked for Mr. Gibson were "loyal to their chief," Mr. Gibson.

Now there is no reason to believe that Mr. Gibson has changed his opinion with respect to the Emmerson government. He has no more confidence in this ministry than he had before.

It was remarked the other day that three parties had a large financial interest in winning this election for the government, namely, the owners of the Canada Eastern, the lumbermen who escape stumpage, and the bridge contractors.

In discussing the names of the Miramichi lumbermen who got off with a small percentage of their stumpage, two firms were mentioned. In regard to a third there was a large discrepancy between the quantity of lumber, on which stumpage was paid and the quantity exported. His name, however, was withheld, because it was understood that he had private lands and it was not known how much lumber he cut on them. This gentleman, who of course pays no higher rate of stumpage than

the other large operators, has been heard from since. We go once more to the Fredericton Herald and find the following:

The great wipe out for the opposition at Bloomfield Ridge was a surprise to everybody. William Richards, the Miramichi lumber king, stood at Bloomfield in the interests of the government candidates, and the result of the polling is proof of the great influence he wields in that section.

We shall hear next from the contractors. The opportunity appears to think that the Monoton resolution has been proved to be a mistake in tactics. This conclusion is quite logical to a reasoner who starts out with the assumption that success is everything and principle nothing.

The effort made by the liberal conservatives to win for the people the right to have something to say in elections was worth making, and if a majority of the people have not made the wisest use of the privileges obtained for them they should at least be grateful to the party that gave them a chance.

Even the worse class of voter who sells his citizenship on election day may congratulate himself that he was permitted to have anything to do with the transaction. The policy of the coalitionists has been to make the vote of the whole constituency a matter of bargain between individuals and to give the proceeds to the middle man.

It was due to the party contest, such as it was, that anything like a fair discussion of the issues was had. The government is sustained after all by nearly the full house, but that is not the whole story.

Beginning with Northumberland, we find that the single opposition candidate came within 430 votes of the provincial secretary, whereas in the last election he was 700 behind. In Westmorland it was an opposition man who led the poll.

In Albert Mr. Emmerson's majority has been reduced by one-half, and the attorney general has had the same experience in Kings. The government has lost Sunbury and has only a small majority in Queens.

Carleton is held by a reduced majority. Charlotte, which elected government men by acclamation before, was only captured by a small majority after a large expenditure of money.

The accepted government ticket was half beaten in Victoria and wholly beaten in Madawaska. We mention these facts not to make the result of less importance but to show that there is a great body of public opinion against the government and that it found expression in spite of the great body of influences arrayed in favor of the parties in power.

It is something to have stirred up such a feeling as to call out this free and independent vote against all these influences. There are some 67,000 voters in the provinces and a transfer of 1,000 from the government side to the opposition in Restigouche, Westmorland, Albert, Kings, St. John, Queens, Charlotte, York and Victoria would have left the government with less than half the house.

We repeat that this is not an attempt to explain away a serious defeat. The purpose is to show that the liberal conservatives have done some service to the cause of square government. It remains to be seen what the ultimate effect will be, but in the meantime we venture to say that it is better for a man to be beaten by the opportunists and bargainers than to be an opportunist and a bargainer.

TRAINING LAIDS FOR THE NAVY. The plan of the imperial government for recruiting the British navy with native seamen is gradually taking form. The scheme set forth in the act of last year does not appear to be satisfactory to the mercantile marine, as the shipowners object to the collection of light dues for the purpose of naval expenses.

The main features of the plan lately prepared by a committee of the Navy League are thus set forth: (1) Boys taken from the public elementary schools to be entered in depot training ships, and indoctrinated for four years to fit them for the sea.

(2) To be bound to serve time and pass as qualified seamen in the royal naval service. (3) Payments to selected shipowners: 1s. per month for first year, 15s. per month second year, and 10s. per month third year.

(4) The cost of scheme to be provided by the board of trade. The Elder-Dempster firm have made an offer to the British government to take at the start from 200 to 300 boys on their 35 steamships.

They do not ask a premium, but are willing to make a pay allowance to the naval apprentices. They offer to take lads of fifteen years and upwards, selected by the government, and to keep them three years, paying them for the first year \$2.50 per month, for the second \$5, and for the third \$10, with food and an allowance of \$3.75 per week while on board while the ships are in port.

Judging from the tone of the minister's reply to this offer it will probably be accepted, and an effort will be made to induce other shipowners to prepare boys for the navy on the same terms.

PARIS AT PEACE. The death of President Faure and the choice of his successor appear to have had no seriously disquieting effect on the easily distracted mind of Paris. The presidency has gone to a man of moderate views, who has in some way managed to escape from any serious connection with the Dreyfus agitation.

If he had some connection with parties implicated in the Panama scandal, that was some years ago, and it is much more important now to be right on the question of the Jews than on the question of Panama finance. President Loubet begins by praising everybody, while mildly rebuking the populace and the deputies because they do not conduct themselves with the same dignity in dealing with a Dreyfus affair as they do in questions of foreign policy.

The Dreyfus affair is still before the court of cassation, which is an appeal court of some thirty or forty judges. It was before the criminal section of that court, where it properly belongs, when Beauregard started the agitation against that section of the court by declaring that it was favorable to Dreyfus and against the army.

The government was terrorized into calling the whole court, thus reflecting on the good faith of the highest tribunal in the land. The agitation which was raised against one part of the court may prevail tomorrow against the whole tribunal and the whole administration of justice. But in the meantime the populace cries "bravo" to President Loubet's counsels of peace, order and respect for authority.

Dr. Guay, M. P. for Levis, whose death is announced, was not one of the leading members, but he was popular and has been one of the whips of the liberal party. He represented Levis, a safe seat for his party, and had sat in four successive parliaments. Levis is one of those strong government constituencies in Quebec which give trouble at election time on account of superfluity of government candidates.

The Monoton Transcript claims to be opposed to government by coalition. Mr. Emmerson is in favor of it, and appealed to the people on that issue. Mr. Emmerson is sustained, and strange to say the Transcript publishes the returns with a roster over them.

The grip papers are quite right in calling it a liberal victory. But they show that they do not believe Mr. Emmerson when he says that there is no party in New Brunswick politics.

The federal seat for Levis, which is now vacant by the death of Dr. Guay, has been carried by the liberals in three successive elections by majorities of 281, 394 and 308. The Winnipeg seat, which is made vacant by the tragic death of Mr. Jampelton, gave the late liberal member in 1897 a majority of 1,100. In the general election Hon. Hugh John Macdonald had been returned by 509.

The Chatham Advance says: If a government with a majority of 28, accused of paying two prices for bridges, can be returned with a majority of 40 and only leave 3 oppositionists in the house, how many of the opposition would be returned if the government had paid three prices instead of two for bridges? Sun, please answer.

The Sun gives it up. The only light it has on the subject comes from Westmorland, where there is a four price bridge and a five price bridge and the government elected half its ticket.

Is there any particular reason why we can't have steel bridges built at the Fredericton and Gibson foundries? Fredericton Herald.

On the contrary there is every reason why at the present prices Fredericton and Gibson should want to have the building of many bridges. There is 100 per cent. extra profit in it.

NOVA SCOTIA.

A Bill to Incorporate the Dominion Steel and Iron Co.

With a Capital of From Ten to Twenty Million Dollars.

HALIFAX, Feb. 21.—The Truro borrowing bill was before the committee of private and local bills of the house of assembly this morning.

Ex-Mayor Turner of Truro appeared on behalf of those in favor of granting a bonus of \$30,000 to the Midland railway, and was opposed by F. McClure, M. P., and others.

Considerable feeling was manifested over the subject. Hector McInnis and Dr. Allan Haley appeared on behalf of the company, and urged that on the strength of the vote of the ratepayers they had expended \$30,000 in surveys and had let contracts amounting to nearly \$300,000.

Regarding the report that the Filipino Agoncillo had called for Liverpool by the steamer Labrador, the Sun correspondent called on A. G. Jones, the agent of the Dominion line, to which the steamer Labrador belongs.

Mr. Jones said he could not say that Agoncillo's whose name appears on the passenger list was the Filipino political agent. He certainly could not say it was not he. All he could say was that the passenger bearing this name was booked in Montreal and Mr. Jones had no reason to doubt that it was the noted Filipino. The ship's passenger list reads "Mr. Agoncillo and two adults," and opposite this is the amount of money they paid for their passage, \$148.

Passengers from the Intercolonial train go straight from the railway station to the steamer. No one knew that Agoncillo was one of them till the passenger list was examined today by the agents and the name was observed.

The Labrador sailed at 3 o'clock this morning, and besides the Filipino, the steamer had sixty other passengers. The secrecy was very successfully maintained, due to the fact that he carried no baggage and that the Montreal agents who booked him for the passage said nothing about it.

The oil tank steamer Bremerhaven, New York for Antwerp, put in today short of coal and with boilers leaking.

CAPE MABOU, Feb. 21.—Mary McInnes, daughter of James McInnes of Cape Mabou, perished in last Monday night's storm, on her way coming home from a neighbor's house. She missed her course, and next morning her frozen corpse was discovered quite handy to her home.

HALIFAX, N. S., Feb. 21.—A bill was introduced in the house of assembly today to give effect to a big enterprise about which people in Nova Scotia have been earnestly talking for months. It was a measure to incorporate the Dominion Steel and Iron company. Its capital is fixed at ten million dollars, with power to increase to twenty million.

Before the company can commence operations it must have one million dollars of its capital subscribed and 25 per cent. of this paid up. The men who are in this new company are practically the same as those who compose the Dominion Coal company. At the head of the list of incorporators is Henry M. Whitney of Boston, H. F. Dimock of New York, Albert Page of New York and W. B. Fox and B. F. Pearson of Halifax.

The charter, which was introduced today, gives the company almost unlimited power in carrying on iron manufacturing operations. They have already bonded extensive iron areas in Belle Isle, Newfoundland, for one million dollars, and it is their intention to erect blast furnaces and smelting works in Cape Breton. There is no difference between this charter and that granted to the Dominion Coal company. There is no clause which permits the new crowd to conduct stores for supplying workmen. Such a provision would have been bitterly opposed, and even now members of the house are saying that they are not satisfied with this negative clause.

They fear that under a clause which in effect permits them to do anything in the interests of the country, the obnoxious company store might be opened. The company stores of the Dominion Coal company have been a cause of much discontent in Cape Breton, and members from that island say they are determined that no opportunity shall be afforded for similar trouble at the hands of the new company.

If the company do all they propose it will revolutionize business in Cape Breton. The blast furnaces and iron manufacturing works to be constructed on a grand scale. The Dominion Coal company, and the new concern having interests almost identical, will work together, and the result will probably be a largely increased output of coal for the use of the iron people.

The iron areas at Belle Isle, for which one million dollars will be paid to the Nova Scotia Steel and Iron Co., who now own them, are estimated to contain thirty million tons of ore.

The bill was introduced in the house today by Alex. Johnston, a member who is not supposed to be particularly friendly to the Dominion Coal company, but notwithstanding this he has made a speech in which he expressed the belief that great things are in store for Cape Breton at the hands of Henry M. Whitney and his American and Montreal associates.

Mr. Whitney went to Montreal today.

WILHAM RAMSAY will establish a 50 horse power steam rotary saw mill at Eight Mile brook, where there will be about 200,000 feet of lumber to saw.

The light easterly wind that has prevailed the past few days, has been sufficient to clear the river almost entirely of the immense quantities of ice in it, which greatly impeded navigation.

Judge Graham, as judge of the divorce court, died his decision on Monday in the case of Beatrice Maud Murrell Hodson against Leopold Coppard Hodson, granting an absolute

WOLFVILLE.

Annual Meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association.

Interesting Addresses by W. S. Blair of Nappan, J. J. Ferguson and Others.

WOLFVILLE, Feb. 22.—The annual Fruit Growers' association now in session at Wolfville is a large and influential body. The first meeting took place in College hall on Monday evening. On account of the illness of J. W. Bigelow, president, Colonel Spurr of Wilmot was called to the chair.

After prayer by Rector Oxford of Cornwallis the president's address was read by the secretary, S. C. Park. In discussing the address Mr. Bryan, secretary of Pictou Co. agricultural society, announced the fact of the shipment, with good results, of the first carload of apples to the English market.

W. S. Blair of the Model farm spoke of the shipments of fruit from New Brunswick and P. E. I. as the result of awakened interest in this industry.

Charles Brown of Yarmouth gave a description of horticulture in that county, where they raise about 100 varieties.

Prof. Sears, principal of the Horticultural school, read a valuable paper on spraying, which brought out much discussion.

The second session opened on Tuesday morning. The first address was by P. C. Black of Falmouth on The Dairy as an Adjunct on the Orchard.

A valuable address was given by F. T. Shutt, M. A., of Ottawa, on the comparative economy of fertilizers. In answer to questions he gave the comparative values of basic slag, assatete, wood ashes and other sources of plant food. Young trees require nitrogen, old trees phosphoric acid and potash. Salt is not necessary to plants.

J. J. Ferguson of Smith Falls, Ont., gave an address on the Bacon Hog, which he advocated should be raised, irrespective of the orchard, as refuse apples do not improve the quality of pork. He recommended as the best breed Yorkshire dams and Berkshire sires.

J. J. Selter discussed pear culture, and recommended the Frederic Clapp. At the afternoon session W. S. Blair of Nappan gave an address on Horticulture in the Maritime Provinces.

He said profitable fruit growing can be carried on in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. In northern New Brunswick plums cannot be profitably grown, but in the south, pears, plums, as well as small fruits, can be profitably raised. Canned goods in New Brunswick bring 20 per cent. higher than in Ontario. During this address Hon. Sydney Fisher, minister of agriculture, accompanied by Hon. Dr. Borden and B. W. Chipman, entered the room.

An address of welcome was read to the Hon. minister of agriculture by W. H. Chase, president of the Wolfville Board of Trade, in conjunction with the Fruit Growers' association.

This was responded to by the learned gentleman, and Dr. Borden followed in an able address.

THE FAST LINE. Hon. Mr. Dobell Expects to Secure a Twenty Knot Service Soon.

(Special to the Sun.) MONTREAL, Feb. 22.—The Star's London correspondent cables: I interviewed Hon. Mr. Dobell today regarding his present mission. He gives me the assurance that the Canadian government has no intention of reducing the standard of the proposed fast Atlantic service. His suggestion made that the government would accept a compromise of combined freight and passenger service of sixteen or eighteen knots at least is the speed upon which the government intends to insist. Mr. Dobell points out that the present rate of twenty knots is a very fast rate for a steamship of this class. He absolutely denies the current reports that Peterson is again tendering. The Peterson is an entirely off.

As regards Peterson's deposit, some misapprehension seems to prevail in Canada. Peterson paid down only ten thousand pounds in cash. On his earnest representations the government accepted the remaining ten thousand pounds in a banker's guarantee. The cash deposit of ten thousand pounds the government retains.

ON OMDURMAN. The Khalifa Said to be Advancing With Fifteen Thousand Men.

CAIRO, Feb. 22.—The Khalifa has left Sherkele and is moving northwards with a considerable force. He has been heretofore raiding the Omdurman route he is following, and the latter have become panic-stricken.

Major Macdonald, the head of the British expedition, has been exploring East Africa, has started for Omdurman, and Major General Hunter, the recently appointed governor of Omdurman, and other British officers on furlough have been recalled.

LONDON, Feb. 22.—The Daily News publishes the following despatch from Cairo: "The Khalifa is advancing upon Omdurman with between fifteen thousand and twenty thousand men. Preparations are urgently proceeding to meet him."

A footnote to the despatch says: "The facts are that the Khalifa, strongly entrenched, with sixteen thousand men, and the British force only having a small force, he found it necessary to retire on Omdurman. This retirement the Khalifa regarded as a sign of weakness, and he led him to rally his forces to the advance. Mr. Kitchener has nine thousand men at Omdurman."

SUTHERLAND GUILTY Of Manslaughter in the Case of the Death of the Conwell Woman.

BOSTON, Feb. 23.—James R. Sutherland, the woman-beater, convicted in the Suffolk superior criminal court this afternoon of manslaughter in causing the death of his sister-in-law, Josephine Augusta Conwell, alias "Annie Ryan, alias Mrs. Sutherland," was sentenced by Judge Higginson to the state prison for not more than 12 nor more than 15 years at hard labor.

The son, Numbur, Capt. Mallman, is being locked with James at Annapolis by H. J. Crowe of Bridgetown. The cargo will go to the West Indies.

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