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Wm. Somerville Semi-Weekly Telegraph ST. JOHN, N. B., FEBRUARY 29, 1908.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH THE EVENING TIMES New Brunswick's Independent 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 and White, The Maple Leaf forever."

THE PROVINCE AROUSED Nominations day revealed opposition strength and government weakness. In every constituency, without exception, the administration is opposed by complete tickets.

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In Kings, Queens, Charlotte, York, Northumberland, Westmorland, Kent, Victoria, Albert, Carleton, and Restigouche, the reports of yesterday's proceedings show that the opposition speakers were received with significant public approval as they gave their reasons for believing New Brunswick had had more than enough of the present government.

THE ELECTION DREDGE The people of this country paid for the dredge Fielding, and they did not intend that it should be used for election purposes. The people of this country and this province have long neglected the harbor channel and entrance, and they fully realize that the tardy appearance of the Fielding, one week before election day, represents a foolish attempt to shut the eyes of voters to the black record of the provincial government.

government colors and who are regarded as politically dying. The dredge represents an attempt at artificial respiration. When the Fielding should have been at work here, months ago, it was engaged in making improvements in Pictou and other Nova Scotia harbors where the work was neither so necessary nor so important as was the need for deepening the St. John harbor channel.

But the Fielding could not come. The elections were not near enough. The dredge comes when the winter steamship business is nearly over, and at a season when it will be unable to work steadily owing to weather conditions. The dredge should have been set to work here last spring or in the spring of 1906 and kept at work throughout the ensuing summer and autumn months.

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THIRTY SEATS Mr. W. H. Thorne, in the course of an address to the electors Wednesday, gave some consideration to the political outlook, and expressed the conviction that the opposition would carry thirty seats on March 3.

SEEING THE LIGHT From every platform in the province the government is confessing its sins and proclaiming its repentance. It is self-satisfied and defiant until the life of the Legislature ends on a note of triumph. Then, when the date of the elections was at last forced from the reluctant lips of the Premier, the government began to cast about for ways and means to persuade the people that it would reform if they would but give it one more chance at the public treasury.

will resemble others in that respect. The opposition is confident of electing full tickets in these "big four" constituencies—St. John city, Charlotte, York, and Northumberland. To these sixteen seats should add three from Carleton and three from Kent. If we stopped the count there and added the unpledged candidates who may be depended upon to work with the next administration, we should discover a working majority for Mr. Hazen. But in Queens, Victoria, Westmorland, St. John county, and Restigouche the opposition counts with confidence upon the election of a fair number of its candidates.

Allowing for the over-confidence of the workers from whom information comes, and remembering that the fortunes of war are uncertain, it is still reasonable to conclude that the opposition will have thirty odd seats. The government will have a heavy advantage in the matter of money for all purposes, but the secret ballot should do much to offset the influence exerted by the "resources of civilization."

HANDS OFF! The conduct of Hon. William Pugsley in degrading his high office by seeking to use it to influence New Brunswick voters in the provincial elections is the subject of general comment in newspapers outside this province. Of course it is recognized everywhere that Dr. Pugsley's activity means only one thing—an effort to save the weak and tottering local administration by introducing a wholly foreign and alien element into the provincial government.

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ST. JOHN CITY St. John is not going to forget the record of the local government because Hon. Wm. Pugsley has found the local government useful in his business and hopes to find it useful again. The opposition ticket in St. John has had to meet many foolish arguments, but surely the government has put forward none more foolish in the eyes of the proud and self-respecting city than the covert threat that the port will be made to suffer unless the people vote for Messrs. Purdy, Lantaulum, Sears and Skinner. No matter how much Hon. Mr. Pugsley and his local government lieutenants may hope from their attempt to bribe and intimidate this constituency, it is a fact that their methods cannot force the government candidates upon the electors, a majority of whom are hostile to the local administration and fully awake to the facts.

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the government by the approach of the elections. For years the Highway Act was defended by the government and its servants. The decision to appeal to the country was no sooner arrived at than the government decided that the Highway Act was a miserable measure and that the roads must be attended to. But the country knows that these men, who now ask for support, set this province back three years by their mismanagement of the highways. Year after year they knew how roads and bridges were falling into ruin, but they did not heed. They were in power and they did not wish to be bothered. The people must put up with it. The thing would be fixed up in time. Are these men worthy of confidence? Is there any reasonable excuse for their conduct? The elections frighten them, and they profess repentance everywhere. But if they win now they will be convinced that they may trifle with the people and yet escape punishment. The safe way is to vote them out of office.

THE PREMIER'S BLUFF An alleged interview with Hon. C. W. Robinson, printed in a government newspaper last evening, contained statements regarding the campaign outlook which are so wild and reckless and so directly in conflict with the known facts as to defeat utterly the purpose which the Premier had in view—if he really said what is credited to him. Mr. Robinson claimed the whole province and it appears that only lack of time or space prevented him from invading Quebec and Nova Scotia. And he might quite as well have talked about carrying sections of those provinces as some New Brunswick counties which he named. As clear, sheer campaign bluff on the eve of election the Premier's "forecast" is certainly readable, but it is not the sort of utterance for which a thoughtful public man would willingly accept responsibility.

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TOO LONG IN POWER The panic-stricken local administration expects defeat on March 3, and it has earned it. Never was there a more striking example of deterioration due to a too long lease of power than that provided by the politicians who have ruled New Brunswick for twenty-five years. Instead of standing up like men and admitting responsibility for their acts the members of the present government, ever since the campaign began, have been dodging the truth or seeking to distort it. When their record was spread before the people in detail it shocked the province. The men responsible for the acts and conditions exposed an adverse verdict by the people, and they dare not face the music. They began a campaign of retreat, apology, professed repentance, and misrepresentation.

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A Divorce Granted After many years of patient suffering you can be divorced from every ailment by applying Putnam's Kidney Extract, which acts in 15 hours without pain. Refuse a substitute because "Putnam's" is the remedy that is safe and painless.

high. Mr. Hazen, who has lived long in St. John and understands its needs thoroughly, will treat St. John and its representatives generously. The constituency has proved often in the past that it has a mind of its own and will not submit to dictation. It has proved, too, that when its interest is aroused it rolls up heavy majorities for the popular cause. The vote against the government ticket on Tuesday next will be exceedingly heavy. The four opposition candidates will win with ease. Their victory will be a lesson to those who are now attempting to threaten the city with the Federal anger in case its people do not vote against their honest convictions. The electors of St. John are not to be hoodwinked or scared by any such tactics. It was a mistake to employ such methods, and the size of the mistake will be appreciated when the votes are counted.

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DISCRIMINATION IN LAND GRANTS FOR SOUTH AFRICAN HEROES SCORED IN HOUSE

Ottawa, Feb. 25—When the house met today Mr. Graham gave notice of his resolution to provide for the salaries of the assistant chief commissioner of railways and other two commissioners. Mr. Bennett said that when the bill came up he would move that being a member of parliament or senator would disqualify anyone from sitting on the board.

Dr. Daniel Protesta. Dr. Daniel did not think that it mattered much what was said at a previous meeting of the house. The question now was the resolution before the house. That resolution proposed federal recognition to African war. He had no doubt that a great deal of dissatisfaction would be created, if the resolution was passed on its present lines. The volunteers of the other provinces would feel dissatisfied that they were discriminated against.

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