

Semi-Weekly Telegraph

ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 22, 1902.

LAURIER.

The chieftain is at home again. No other public man in Canada ever received such a welcome as that accorded to Sir Wilfrid Laurier when he reached Quebec last Friday evening. Nor was the demonstration by any means entirely political. Canada, irrespective of politics, welcomed the first Canadian, and the ovation was unparalleled in our history.

Sir Wilfrid comes home to find his prestige immensely increased, for all eyes were upon him while he was in England and on the continent, and there was no Canadian who had not reason to be proud of him, though a narrow few withheld their praise because their politics outweighed their patriotism.

He comes to find Canada on the crest of the greatest wave of general prosperity in its history—prosperity to which it is freely admitted that he has contributed as did never Canadian before him.

What wonder then that the ancient capital last evening presented a spectacle of enthusiasm never before equalled there, or anywhere in the Dominion?

"Irrespective of race, creed or party politics," says The Telegraph's Quebec correspondent in his sprightly account of the homecoming, "the people turned out as one man to greet the honored guest, and prove their appreciation of the man who has shed upon the name of Canada by his commanding talents, his splendid public services, and the admirable manner in which he represents us in England."

It is idle for the Conservative newspapers to assert that the Liberal party has suffered in the premier's absence. There is too much evidence to the contrary. But if it had suffered and lacked anything to assure continued and more striking success, Sir Wilfrid Laurier is the man to supply it.

It is pleasing to be able to announce that the premier's health is good, that there is no foundation for reports to the contrary, and that he is ready for work.

ST. JOHN'S INCOME TAX.

The income tax as a source of civic revenue is based rather on its practical expediency than on any proper principle of civic assessment. The idea underlying it is that the contribution of each citizen to the city treasury should be measured by his ability to pay, rather than on any proper principle that each should contribute according to the measure of service which he and his property may reasonably expect to receive in return from the municipality. But the chief objection to an income tax is not so much its being founded upon an entirely erroneous principle, as it is the unfairness which inevitably results from its being carried in practical execution. The erroneous principle prevents moneyed men from coming to our beautiful city and making it their home. The unfair carrying out of the income assessment burdens unduly the wage earners who are so important a factor in the life of the city's wealth. Let us see the results of the income tax as illustrated in the city's assessment figures for the current year, 1902. For simplicity sake we give the number taxed on poll only and the numbers assessed on the different income values, and the amount raised therefrom:

778 Polls only.....	1,000 Income	23.43
186 \$100 Income.....	20 2,000	1,850.00
1,029 200 ".....	1 2,100 ".....	32.55
6,000 300 ".....	3 2,200 ".....	102.30
1,029 400 ".....	4 2,300 ".....	143.80
67 500 ".....	6 2,400 ".....	223.20
1,024 600 ".....	21 2,500 ".....	313.75
416 700 ".....	1 2,600 ".....	40.30
175 800 ".....	3 2,700 ".....	121.20
229 900 ".....	13 2,800 ".....	364.50
67 1,000 ".....	1 3,000 ".....	51.15
234 1,000 ".....	2 3,500 ".....	108.50
22 1,100 ".....	1 3,600 ".....	55.80
129 1,200 ".....	1 3,800 ".....	68.90
18 1,300 ".....	4 4,000 ".....	248.00
17 1,400 ".....	6 5,000 ".....	468.00
80 1,500 ".....	1 5,500 ".....	82.15
8 1,600 ".....	1 6,000 ".....	88.00
5 1,700 ".....	131.75	
17 1,800 ".....	474.30.....	\$38,910.83

A careful perusal of these figures demonstrate two things quite clearly: (1) That the income tax does not reach, to anything like the correct extent, the numbers of the money makers, the men of large income. (2) That it burdens unfairly and even harshly on the wage earners who are earning less than sufficient to maintain themselves and their families.

Do we quite realize that a civic tax on men earning less than \$300 a year is in many cases equivalent to taking the bread from their children's mouths? Yet it is not a matter of dispute that such incomes are no more than sufficient to provide the bare necessities of life for a household, and most of the tax payers of St. John are married men with families to maintain.

If the income tax is to be retained in our system of civic assessment, it behooves us for the honor of our city and for our own common humanity to insist that the poll tax and the tax on incomes of \$100 and \$200 be abolished, and no demand of any kind made upon that class of our citizens who bear the heaviest burden of manual labor with such inadequate monetary return as to make it impossible for them to contribute directly to the city's treasury. The slight loss of revenue can be readily made up by the discovery of larger incomes of more prosperous citizens. But as a matter of fact the whole principle of civic taxation could be amended with advantage to provide for the abolition of the unfair tax on personal incomes.

MR. TARTE.

Although no authoritative announcement as to any decision regarding Mr. Tarte was made after yesterday's meeting of the cabinet at Ottawa, the general opinion in the capital is that his resignation is practically certain.

Mr. Tarte's own utterances recently and those generally credited to him—as for instance a remarkable article in his newly acquired Debates—tend strongly to confirm the belief which the Telegraph's Ottawa correspondent says is the common one there—that Mr. Tarte's office will be vacant before many days.

Our correspondent adds that there is no very keen interest in the matter at Ottawa, where those "in the know" are not disposed to regard the minister of public works as the gigantic figure which he has gradually become in the eyes of all the Tory and some Liberal editors throughout Canada.

There is no doubt that by his unjustifiable course Mr. Tarte has given a measure of aid and comfort to the enemy, and may justly be criticized and sharply dropped for that reason; but many have erred in supposing, or pretending to suppose, that his conduct, even if it be held to constitute a capital offence politically, is of sufficient weight to shake the Liberal fabric.

With Mr. Tarte, or without him—with him quiescent, or without him in eruption—the party is still the party of progress, firmly entrenched in the good will of the people of Canada, the party against which much clumsy and some artful Tory misrepresentation has been unable to make appreciable advance.

Mr. Tarte, it is fair to assume, will either get out, or cease to defy all constitutional precedent. In either case the political enemies of the premier will profit little by him hereafter. He has been talked about a great deal because it suited the purpose of all the opposition newspapers to feature him as a very foolish and disordered. They must get them a new issue. The mediocrity of Mr. Borden cannot always be hidden by a hue and cry over Mr. Tarte.

A COMMON SENSE POLICY.

A great deal is heard from time to time in Canada of a tariff policy which will build up this confederacy at the expense of our neighbors in the great republic to the south. It is even spoken of as a Canadian policy. We think that is a misnomer. If the Canadian nation is big enough to refuse to allow its tariff policy to be dictated from Washington, it is surely big enough, broad enough and its people brainy enough to refuse to permit the tariff wall to be raised, simply because those who are selfishly interested in high duties suggest we can in this way pay the Americans back in their own coin.

We take it the Canadian trade policy is dictated by considerations of what is most beneficial for the greatest number of our people, rather than by a short-sighted effort to spite our neighbors at our own expense. If we believed that the foreign seller paid the duty on his wares then we could readily agree with the proposal to raise the tariff on all lines of goods imported from the United States. Not because we have any desire to harm the producers in that republic, but because we believe the customs tariff is a purely business matter, in the adjustment of which a country is justified in acting according to its own best interests regardless of other nations, excepting in so far as this principle is controlled by a still broader sentiment of imperialism. But The Telegraph believes that the consumer pays the duty, and therefore no greater duties should be levied than are necessary to provide the revenues for the maintenance of the various public services.

A national tariff policy should be dictated not by a narrow spirit of anti-Americanism, but by a broad desire to frame a policy best suited for the benefit of the Canadian people. While no tariff framed by human hands will ever be perfect, we feel that this existing tariff has proven itself better adapted for the needs of Canada than anything which had previously been attempted in the way of tariff making. Before any radical changes are effected, it is the part of wisdom to first make sure that the desire for change is dictated by public spirit. So far there is only evidence of a demand of protection from the persons whose private interests would be benefited. And in their case the demand has arisen from the suggestion offered to them that it was a good time to move in that direction.

Every class of people in Canada has been prosperous in the past six years beyond all precedent. There is no sign of that want of prosperity which was foretold by the learned gentlemen who figure so to an hour the good times, on the principle of cycles of depression following regularly in the track of the cycles of prosperity. The people are satisfied with things as they are.

RUSSIA'S GAME IS DEEPER.

The report of a Russian-Turkish alliance along the lines of the Unkari-Skelessi treaty of 1833 is highly improbable. Russia, ever aggressive, does not proceed so rapidly in her European intrigues. The policy of the Russian diplomat is rather that of a waiting game entering the thin edge of the wedge at every opportunity. By means of the Macedonian League of Bulgaria it is always possible to keep Macedonia and other portions of Turkey in a continual turmoil and therefore provide a genuine threat to the flesh of the already anxious Sick Man. In the same way the Bear can, among other things, threaten the Sublime Porte by threatening uprisings in the Balkan States and by demanding the payment of the war indemnity fixed by the Berlin Treaty of 1878.

The Sultan, who has worries enough at home, is willing to pacify the Russians with any moderate concession and therefore little by little Russia is gaining ground in Turkey.

It is doubtful, however, if Turkey would renew the Unkari-Skelessi Treaty as by such an act the Black Sea would practically become a Russian lake and the Ottoman Empire a dependency. In 1833 the position of Turkey was very different from that of today. It was not until 1840, when the Treaty of London was promulgated, that Turkey was recognized as a European power. Turkey had not recovered in 1830 from the Greek war of independence, in which the latter nation was materially assisted by the Franco-British alliance. Mehmet Ali, the Khedive of Egypt, revolted against the Sultan's rule in 1831, and was defeating the Turkish troops in nearly every engagement, so that in 1833 the position of Turkey was so precarious that the Porte was glad to make any concession which would guarantee the integrity of the Empire.

By the Unkari-Skelessi Treaty Turkey promised to permit no foreign warships to enter the Black Sea, and in return Russia gave the necessary guarantee regarding territorial integrity. Peace was not established in Egypt until 1839, when Britain and France interfered and compelled Abdul Medjid to come to terms with the Khedive. The treaty of 1840, guaranteeing Turkey's integrity, of which the different European powers were signatories, is still in force, as no later treaty has in any way altered it and it is not probable that the powers which signed it and the treaties of Paris and Berlin would permit the renewal of the Unkari-Skelessi Treaty of 1833, by which Turkey would become a Russian dependency and the Black Sea a Russian Lake.

But straw indicates which way the wind is blowing, and although it is denied that

the visit of the Russian Grand Duke to Constantinople had any political significance, still the world is too familiar with Russian diplomacy to believe that it was only a friendly visit and that the Bear has no ulterior object in view.

MITCHELL.

In addressing the convention of miners at Wilkesbarre Monday John Mitchell advised the men to unite in submitting their grievances to the commission appointed by President Roosevelt, and it is probable they will do so, although signs of friction are not wanting.

The strike leader omitted a very important matter in his address. He did not tell the men that intimidation and disorder had been most prejudicial to their interests, and that until they decided as a body to recognize the right of non-union men to sell their labor freely had without fear of violence, they could not hope for sustained public support or protection from the state or federal government.

Mitchell had much to say of the great heart of the American people throbbing in sympathy with the strikers. There was something in that, particularly early in the strike. But he should have told the men that the great strength of the operators' position lay in their just contention that the state authorities must maintain order and that the strikers and their more violent sympathizers alone openly defied the law.

The commission may succeed in establishing a modus vivendi. It is scarcely likely to do more, though all may hope for an adjustment which will obviate further serious difficulty.

But the commission, no matter what it does, cannot, and will not, alter the principle of government which guarantees safety and fair play to every man who is willing to work whether he is a union man or not.

And Mitchell would have gone far toward convincing the people at large of his sincerity and wisdom had he made the preservation of the public peace—obedience to the laws of the land—a feature of his address.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN MARKET.

The Telegraph has already referred to the opportunity for a profitable Canadian trade with South Africa. We were glad to learn that the Allan steamer Ontario, which sailed from Montreal last week, had a full cargo of Canadian produce for the Cape. While it is quite true that South Africa has been passing through a period of inflation, so far as food consumption is concerned, owing to the presence of a great army, and the unsettled agricultural conditions, yet the normal demand of such produce as Canada supplies is sufficient to give our producers a splendid market. The transportation difficulty has been bridged over by the government's prompt action in providing a first class steamship service.

The value of provisions imported into South Africa in 1898, the year before the war, was \$3,367,258, or about one-seventh of the total imports. Of this amount the most important items in value were butter, cheese, flour, canned goods, frozen meats, bacon, ham, condensed milk and lumber. In many, if not all, of these lines the producers of this country could find a profitable market. There is one problem in the transportation question to be solved, before the continuity of the service, regardless of government aid, can be considered settled. We refer to the return cargo. But that is not a problem for the immediate present which need deter the Canadian shipper from expending the effort necessary to the taking of the full advantage which this market offers, for the government subsidy ensures a present service. It is moreover probable that in time a profitable trade may be worked up by the steamers could in return for farm produce, lumber and manufactured goods obtain return cargoes, in part at least, of South African wool.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

United Canada rejoices in the safe return of its beloved Premier.

There is room in Canada for all its workers. The advertisement which recently appeared in Boston papers asking for 150 carpenters to go to Amsterdam and Sydney was a practical illustration in point.

The news that the coal operators intend to reduce the price of coal to a normal rate as soon as the coal begins to move from the mine is reassuring to the consumers who feared that months must elapse before supply and demand would equalize the prices.

The idea of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's retirement from the premiership seems to be promulgated most assiduously by the papers to whom the wish is father to the thought. Sir Wilfrid is quite well enough, we trust, to control the destinies of Canada for another decade.

It is not strange to learn from the interview with Mitchell, the great strike leader, that Pierpont Morgan has been trying to settle the strike ever since he came from Europe. The capitalist is usually the best friend of labor in spite of all the misunderstandings which interfere with the friendship.

St. John, N. B., October 22, 1902.

Men's Fall Suits.

Comparisons prove we give you more or better for your money than any other store gives you.

Don't we scour the markets for the best goods and the smartest patterns? Isn't every piece of Cloth that goes into Oak Hall Clothing carefully tested for wear—worth—and color? Don't we keep our eyes upon the makers and see that every stitch measures up to our standard? Don't we give better value for the money than any other clothing store? Don't we sell more clothing than any other store in town? Men know what they want—and they come here for it.

See the Suits at \$8.00
See the Suits at \$10.00
See the Suits at \$15.00

Single or Double-Breasted Coat, any cloth; any color
There, now; aren't you coming to see em?

Boys' Real Good Clothing.

Good cloth—good wear. Pshaw! Others say the same and advertise suits at similar prices. So they do. But go back of their words and ours—compare cloth, make-up, style. Whose are slighted at every point? Of course—and we shall never do that—it doesn't pay. The largest clothing business in won proves it.

Two Piece Suits (In Norfolk Jacket, Pleated, and Double Breasted)	\$1 50 to \$5 00	Three Piece Suits	\$3 00 to 10
Sailor Suits	75 to 12 00	Russian Blouse Suits	\$5 00, 5 50, 6 00
Vestee Suits	2 00 to 3 00		

GREATER OAK HALL,

King Street, Cor. German.

SCOVIL BROS. & CO.

Sense and Nonsense.

The steamer Lake Superior might be employed as a permanent lightning rod to mark the Round Reef.

One of the speakers at the Sunday school convention said that the clergy should deal with live issues. Quite true. Would he abolish the funeral sermon?

The "main body" has not yet come out into the open. It must either be concealed somewhere in the woods of Sunbury county or in the Sun sanctuary.

John Blair, the actor, says Mrs. Pat Campbell is "impossible" and refuses to release with her any more. Has her pet dog Pinky-Pinky-Poo been biting the leading man or is he jealous?

The first Lieutenant Fred M. Spoon dropped from his lofty position on the opposition platform? Why was he not taken to Restigouche, Northumberland and Kent counties?

It is the opinion of a philosopher that politics makes such strange bedfellows it's a wise man who has insomnia sometimes. —Atlanta Constitution.

Has Mr. Anderson's fame spread to Georgia?

No men in New Brunswick politics have spent so much time in talking as J. D. Hazen and George V. McInerney. The people, however, look for something more substantial than oratorical fireworks. Decide as what they want.

The thousands of Liberals who, according to the Tory newspapers, were going to rush madly to Mr. Hazen's standard have not been conspicuous thus far. They know better than to commit their political fortunes to the keeping of Mr. Hazen and the Sun.

George V. McInerney did not devote much of his time at the Richibucto meeting to telling the people what great things he had done for Kent county when he was its representative at Ottawa. The people knew. He did nothing, but talk and to no effect.

There is still no running mate for Fred M. Anderson in the county. Is it not too much to ask the nominee to haul the opposition band wagon all over the county alone. Fred M. will be kicking over the traces if this state continues. He is an ill-used man.

They were trying to get a jury in the Molieux case in New York on Thursday and were examining talesmen as to their fitness to serve. Nicholas H. Bour, a manufacturer, was called.

"What do you manufacture?" asked Mr. Osborne.

"Life saving apparatus," answered Mr. Bour.

"That's just what we need," exclaimed Mr. Olcott in a loud aside.

"Challenged peremptorily," said the assistant district attorney, and Mr. Bour stepped down as the crowd roared at the thought of a life-saver on a murder jury.

Two Strong Leaders!

THE B. B. BODY CO.'S
HEADLIGHT-MATCH, TELEGRAPH-SULPHUR MATCH.

A Pair of Matches Hard to Beat!

12 CTS. A PACKAGE EACH. EVERY GROCER HAS THEM

SCHOFIELD BROS.,

Post Office Box 331. SELLING AGENTS, ST. JOHN, N.B.

THE MAINSTAY OF THE MEDICINE CHEST.

As a Diuretic Beverage, Volts' Anhydrous Schiedam Schnapp is the highest reputation throughout the world and the most powerful of all diuretics and medicines everywhere. For over sixty years it has been the mainstay of the household medicine chest. It is an appetizing tonic, and thoroughly efficient in acute and chronic Kidney, Bladder and Liver Troubles, Rheumatism, Dyspepsia, Languor and General Debility. The Genuine from all Druggists and Grocers.

The moose deer has the largest horns of any animal. They often weigh from 50 pounds to 60 pounds.

There are in Paris 1,216 factories.

BANK PRESIDENT STABS

A GROCER IN STREET ROW.

Pensacola, Oct. 20.—In a street fight today growing out of a dispute over a lawsuit, W. C. O'Neal, president of the American National Bank, stabbed Adolph Greenhut, a wholesale grocer, under the left ear, also in the back and on the arm, the wound in the neck being serious. O'Neal was arrested on a warrant charged with assault with intent to kill and was released on \$500 bonds. Greenhut is not yet out of danger.

SEM-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH'S PICTURE "FUZZLE"



"HERE COMES THE 'SQUIRE' WHERE?"