

**The St. John Standard**  
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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1914.

**REDISTRIBUTION.**

According to announcement the Redistribution Bill will be introduced in the House of Commons in a few days, and indications are that the discussion it will arouse will be prolonged. The Bill, in the shape in which it will be introduced, will be but a formal measure setting forth the number of constituencies, but making no reference to divisions which will be left to a committee of the House composed of members of Parliament of both political parties. This committee will deal with the details, and when their report is presented to Parliament later in the session it will be as complete as possible.

In the last distribution in 1903, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, then premier, adopted the committee plan, sanctioned by British precedent. His committee was composed of seven members, three Conservatives and four Liberals; thus the Liberals had the casting vote on all matters where there was a difference of opinion. Under Liberal rule the party in power, of course, dominated the divisions of the constituencies, but according to the Toronto Mail and Empire, the coming redistribution will follow as nearly as possible the municipal and county boundaries, grouping such of the numerically weaker ridings as may be necessary to bring about the reductions in representation of some of the Eastern provinces in accordance with the new unit of representation. So far as can be learned the bill will furnish little ground for serious controversy, although some existing injustices under the old redistribution are to be removed.

The new unit of representation, ascertained by dividing the fixed representation of Quebec and the total population of that province, is 39,811. Divided into the populations of the various provinces, this would give Ontario, with a population of 2,523,208, a representation of 63; Quebec, with 2,092,712, a representation of 53; Nova Scotia, population 492,338, a representation of 12; New Brunswick, population 351,889, a representation of 9; Manitoba, population 455,614, a representation of 11; British Columbia, population 302,480, a representation of 8; Prince Edward Island, population 35,728, a representation of 1; Saskatchewan, population 492,432, a representation of 12; Alberta, population 374,863, a representation of 9; Yukon, population 8,612, a representation of 1.—Total 234 members.

The unit of representation in the large cities will be considerably larger than the general unit which will prevail in the less congested parts of the country. It will likely be in the close neighborhood of 49,000.

The present representation is: Ontario 86, Quebec 65, Nova Scotia 18, New Brunswick 13, Manitoba 10, British Columbia 7, Prince Edward Island 4, Saskatchewan 10, Alberta 7, Yukon 1.—Total 221 members.

According to the terms of the British North America Act, under which the representation is fixed, a fraction of population amounting to less than half the total required to entitle a province to a member, is disregarded, but a fraction exceeding half the unit is counted as a whole unit. The provinces which save a member each under this provision are: Ontario, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

The disposition of the new bill is to give to the western provinces the additional representation to which they are entitled by their increasing population. Under its provisions Manitoba will gain five seats, Saskatchewan six, Alberta five and British Columbia six, a total gain of twenty-two. In the East the provinces, with the exception of Quebec, will lose representation, Quebec being the pivot on which the whole scheme is computed. Ontario will lose four seats, Nova Scotia two, New Brunswick two, and Prince Edward Island one, a total loss of nine, or a net gain on the whole Dominion of thirteen.

Various plans have been proposed by which the representation of the Maritime Provinces might be maintained, at least at the present figure. At the last conference of premiers, held in Ottawa, Hon. J. K. Flemming was an earnest worker to this end, but the premiers of the western provinces would not agree to any arrangement except the one of population unit, upon which the bill has been modeled.

While the Maritime Provinces will numerically lose some of their representation, the character of the men sent to Parliament from the east in the past has been such that New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island have been important contributors to the number of statesmen whose names have been written large on the page of Canadian history, and it is altogether likely that this proud record will be well maintained.

**THE SUBURBAN TRAINS.**

Liberal newspapers, in parts of the country on the line of the I. C. R., affected by the withdrawal of the suburban trains, continue to play the game of politics by attacking Mr. Guellet, the general manager of the railway. In taking the suburban trains off the routes, and thereby inconveniencing hundreds of patrons, the general manager of the Government railway has made a mistake, but is it all his fault?

Mr. Guellet was brought to the Intercolonial Railway from another railway, running through a territory totally different in character; a road owned by a company where unprofitable trains were lopped off the running cards just as soon as they became unprofitable. Consequently, in his new office he adopted the course he would have followed in his former position, and removed trains, the revenue from which did not pay for their expenses. It is, however, reasonable to believe that in so doing he was influenced, to some extent, by the opinions of others who were more in touch with conditions and sentiment. Now if it is desirable for the G. R. to play the political game, and blame Mr. Guellet, and through him the Minister of Railways, and the whole Government, is it not equally as fair to suppose that if Mr. Guellet had not been deliberately misled by some officials of the Intercolonial, appointed under the Laurier Government, at least he was not furnished with information as to conditions that would have saved him from committing the present blunder and antagonizing many hundreds of patrons of the road?

One assumption is as fair as the other, and it has already been instigated by the truthful Grits that the general manager of the Intercolonial is actuated by a desire to "get square." The Standard does not believe any such report, neither do we believe that the residents along the line of the I. C. R., who have a just and real grievance, place any credence in such tales.

The mistake has been made, however, and if the general manager of the Intercolonial finds he has been misled, by accident or lack of knowledge, it is up to him to provide the remedy. If, however, it should be proven that there was a desire to make political capital out of the withdrawal of the suburban trains, then the time is ripe for a wholesale separation of partisan officials from their jobs. If the Grits really desire to carry the political game to its extent, then let us have it, and just as soon as the evidence warrants it. In the meantime it is reasonable to suppose that when Mr. Guellet finds the case of the suburban trains as serious as it really is, he will take the necessary action to do something to meet their requests. The meeting on Saturday should be productive of a general clearing of the atmosphere. But let us hear Mr. Guellet's defence before we convict him.

**IN LIGHTER VEIN**

AND HE DID.

Quite Right  
Dusty Rhodes: "Mister, would you contribute a dollar to help beautify your thriving city?"  
Citizen: "What's the idea?"  
Dusty Rhodes: "Well, a dollar would buy me a ticket to the next town!"

Slow Train  
"What's the matter with the train?" asked the lecturer, vexed with the speed they were making.  
"If you don't like this train," the guard retorted, "you can get out and walk."  
"By jove!" said the lecturer, "I'd like to do it, but a reception committee is to meet me at my destination, and I don't want to get in ahead of time."

No Watch Dog  
During a recent burglar scare in a Yorkshire town, an eccentric old man bought a dog that was warranted a good house-guard.  
When he retired for the night, the dog was fastened in the kitchen as the most likely place to catch any of the expected burglars.  
In the early morning a neighbor went tooken him, and heard the old man say to his wife:  
"Get up, Bet, and waken that dog; there's burglars in the house."

Had Had Enough  
The clergyman, visiting the hospital, stopped at the bedside of a pale young man swathed in bandages.  
"Cheer up, young man," he said, unctuously, "keep smiling—it's the best medicine."  
"I'll never smile again," replied the young man.  
"Nonsense. Yes you will."  
"No," sadly continued the battered one, "no nonsense about it. I'll never smile again—at least, not at another fellow's girl!"

He Clingled It  
Long and earnestly had the good women of the country town argued about the way in which the world would be destroyed. For four weary hours they had set forth their theories.  
And, finally, they asked the opinion of the only man present, and who alone had remained silent.  
Taking his pipe from his mouth for one brief moment he answered:  
"It will probably be talked to death."

There was a dead silence for a little while, and then one by one the debaters crept out.



EDITOR AND HE DID.

**Diary of Events**

**HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA**

Major-General Sir Isaac Brock, Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, delivered his famous address to the Legislature of the Province 102 years ago today. The outbreak of the war between Great Britain and the United States was still four months in the future, but Brock, with prophetic vision, realized that the struggle was imminent and certain. The man who was to be the hero of the conflict, and to give up his life to the British cause before the year had passed, said:  
"England is not only interested in the harbors of the United States while they afford a shelter to cruisers of her inveterate enemy, but she is likewise compelled to resist those maritime rights which she has long exercised and enjoyed. Insulting threats are offered and hostile preparations actual commenced; and though not without hope that cool reflection and the dictates of justice may yet avert the calamities of war, I cannot be too urgent in recommending to your early attention the adoption of such measures as will here secure the internal peace of the country and defeat every hostile aggression."

Brock's stirring address, in which he declared that Great Britain would stand by Canada, whether she loved her last gun, did much to allay internal disaffection, and enabled the country to present a united front to the enemy when war was declared on February 4 is the anniversary of the Niagara tragedy of 1912, when three people were swept to death on an ice bridge which broke from its moorings and passed down the river. On that date in 1875 a new Canadian reciprocity treaty was rejected by the United States Senate.

**THE PASSING DAY**

**CONGRESS OF CHATILLON.**

One hundred years ago today, Feb. 4, 1914, a congress was opened at Chatillon, on the Seine in France, at which the representatives of England, Prussia, Russia and Austria discussed terms of peace with Napoleon. The negotiations continued until the nineteenth of March, varied according to the success or failure of the armies in the field. Napoleon had reached a point where he would gladly have accepted the terms offered in 1813, but the allies refused to renew that proposal. They decreed that France must come down to her limits of 1793. "Well," Napoleon said, "leave France smaller than I found her? Never!" He swore, and fought on against tremendous odds.

At the Chatillon conference Napoleon was represented by Caulaincourt. With his imperial master in the field, shut off from quick communication, and with the allies steadily closing in upon Paris, Caulaincourt played from the first a losing game. A man of no great ability, he was pitted against such diplomats as Metternich, representing Austria, and the English plenipotentiary, Stein and William von Borno, who looked after Russian interests.

**THE MEXICAN SITUATION.**

A new element has been introduced into the Mexican situation by the decision of President Woodrow Wilson, of the United States, to remove the embargo on arms and munitions of war exported from that country to Mexico. As it is now both the Huerta party and that led by General Villa are on an absolute parity in official opinion at Washington and if they follow the example of the Kilkenny cats and fight each other out of existence the United States will supply them with guns and bullets, but otherwise continue in the role of an unaffected onlooker.

Some of the American newspapers have made the assertion that Huerta has succeeded in securing arms in Japan, and it is even said from the Japanese Government. American opinion seems to place little credence in the latter story, but, nevertheless, it has had the effect of creating something of a scare, especially along the Southern border, and in the Southwestern States. President Wilson has long desired to see Huerta removed but has declined to intervene to settle the difficulties in the troubled country. With Huerta in command of the seaports, as he is, he can secure all the guns and ammunition he can pay for while the Constitutionists, practically put off from communication with any nation save the United States, have been unable to replenish their stocks of arms except by the sometimes costly device of capturing them from the Federals.

With the factories and the stocks of the United States open to them, however, the situation changes and at the same time the shrewd diplomat at Washington has in a measure accomplished intervention without intervening. His attitude is that of the boy who refused to interfere in a quarrel between his friend and another lad,

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FORMER ST PEOPLE

Natives of I siding in W terest in F and News Always a T

(Correspondence Vancouver, B. postal to amalgam with and the F. British Columbia Provinces' Association

va Scotians to join sation received for an informal democratic association at the evening. Bad against a very la the enthusiasm numbers. Although than two years a wick Association er 1,000 members the Prince Edward tion is believed to many. The Marit association to adopt the families in the in Vancouver m ship of some 5,000 comers have been present association has been made necessarily confu Vancouver, the h organizations, wh Maritime Province several thousand dreds in each of Kootenay towns, through the strength of the province. The British Columbia of whose public is not made. The wick, P. E. I. and acts." The suc formed Maritime tion of Alberta in Calgary is giv as ample justified formation of in Vancouver wi throughout the when a native of "outsider"—partid person—that he era terminal of know intimately other Maritime Dalhousie to Syd Mr. Hodley, Mr. John, is taking tization of the Marit sociation. His co wall, is secretary of the New Brunswick T. A. Cross and J. John, he made ary arrangements for entertainment. T dance were Mrs. Mrs. Thomas Dic Mrs. J. Hamilton of those attend address when K H. S. Hipwell, J. R. M. Kerr, H. C. (all of St. John) Hott (Annapolis E. I.) J. S. McG son (Rexton) Ja Wilson, W. J. W. Lindsay, Dr. Ira Findlay, D. Durham, R. P. bell, R. M. P. E. I. W. J. S. C. P. Stewart, M. (Woodstock) C. ver, Roy Kerr, Elliott, R. McLa man, A. G. Barbr Miss C. Boyle, Miss J. Hamon Alex. Jardine ( son (Rexton) Guesle Dickinsc Scott, Miss Rae, Miss S. Shaw, (Woodstock) Scott, Lola Har Mrs. Jas. Wood Miss F. P. W. Other dances tainments are p The desire has quently here of St. John nent to the westw terest of native who have been Columbia and, least, forgotten have been reviv of records of th during their ab patronage of the Maritime Prov newspapers of rule fail to wel these interestin western readers through the Bo of the growth of many of them stopped growin the constru year 1913 was ed upon here.

Unga Fifty places us. Team will c

For Ser J. Clawson fo acknowledges r Previously rep G. E. Barbour I. G. Crosby National Drug McClary M. C. J. and A. McMi J. M. Humphre Vassle and Co. Manchester, Ro Jones and Sch H. S. Gregory