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**Semi-Weekly Telegraph**  
ST. JOHN N. B., MARCH 16, 1907

# GERMANY AND SEA POWER

Sir Charles Dille's speech in the course of the recent debate on naval appropriation, which carried the weight of expert knowledge, was noteworthy for his declaration that the British fleet is at present up to the standard required by existing conditions, that it is about three times as powerful as that of Germany, and powerful enough to repel any reasonably probable combination of hostile navies. The matter is of timely interest because of some rather belated utterances from Germany. Soon after the British premier was quoted as favoring a limitation of armaments, the Prussian war minister, General von Einem, made the emphatic assertion that such an arrangement was impossible under present conditions, considering the attitude of the nations whose assent would be required. And he added, Germany could not consent to any such proposal since she is essentially a military power. This principle, he pointed out, is now in force among all of the important continental nations. He regards it, or affects to regard it, as the last possible guarantee of peace.

But any such guarantee of peace, so far as Germany is concerned, will not be regarded as convincing. The Kaiser recently scored what has been described as a khaki victory at the elections, by appealing to the loyalty and fighting instincts of his people. The German naval bill of 1906 began with these significant words: "Germany must have a fleet of such strength that a war against the mightiest naval power would involve risks threatening the supremacy of that power." It has been suggested with reason that this was a clear enough allusion to Great Britain. Besides, Germany seeks a colonial empire, and as one of her publicists recently expressed it, "the Kaiser's power requires a fleet able to overawe, and if necessary, overcome, the mightiest naval power."

It is assumed by many, by the Emperor and his advisers among them, that this doctrine was upheld in the recent elections. In Germany, under the War Lord, universal service, instead of making every citizen an advocate of peace places a formidable machine at the disposal of the Emperor. It is fortunate in these circumstances that Germany is, for the time at least, bereft of powerful allies. With such a neighbor there would seem to be no safe policy for Great Britain except one which will keep the navy as strong relatively as it is today.

## CONCERNING CLAMS

Disturbing rumors having reached the ears of the opposition to the effect that some dark conspiracy against New Brunswick's clam industry was afoot, Mr. Hazen some days ago formulated certain searching inquiries regarding the matter. The province will learn with a gasp of relief that Mr. Hazen's fears were without foundation. Among the answers to queries made in the House yesterday there was the following in reply to Mr. Hazen:

"The Lieutenant-Governor in Council has not caused surveys to be made of those portions of the province where clams are known to exist, nor has it divided the same into areas or leased the same and the right to take clams therefrom."

"The government has not appropriated and expended during the past year any sum for the planting or assisting in the planting of clam beds, or the protection and encouragement of the development of such industry."

"No expenses have been incurred during the past year in carrying out the provisions of that portion of the act which relates to the clam industry."

If any attempt has been made by grasping capitalists to establish a chowder trust with the consent or assistance of the government, the sinister movement evidently has resulted in failure. In case the opposition contemplates a monster clam-bank during the coming summer for the entertainment of its adherents and some stiffening of the party loyalty, the lowly but successful clam will be obtainable as usual. Unless the following has increased very materially of late no considerable inroad upon the clam beds will be necessary in order to feed it.

## THE PART OF WISDOM

The school trustees are acting wisely in making a careful examination of all the schools, to determine what changes are necessary to guard the children from injury through fire or panic. They have apparently adopted the principle that fire escapes must be placed on all buildings of more than two stories, meaning, no doubt, such fire escapes as could be used with a fair degree of safety by children at a time of excitement, and not mere iron ladders from which even a grown man might easily fall when hurried or excited.

At the time of the great theatre disaster in Chicago there was a stir here over the safety of public buildings, but as

the horror of that event subsided with the lapse of time many projected changes which should have been made were dropped because of the expense they would involve. In some cases, happily, buildings were greatly improved, but it is to be regretted that the movement was not more general. There was talk about the schools at that time, but it may be doubted if there was a full realization of the need for precautions until the Hochschule horror brought the matter home to every community in Canada. Now the trustees appear determined to take whatever steps may be necessary, even if the expense is considerable. The public will be disposed to view this expenditure with marked approval. It is better to be sure than sorry in these matters.

## THE TELEPHONE INQUIRY

Those who read with care the report of the legislative hearing on the telephone bill at Fredericton Tuesday will see at once that the matter is by no means satisfactorily settled yet. As Recorder Skinner intimated, the nature of the general measure to be prepared by the government, when made known, will decide whether or not representatives of the municipalities will think it necessary to present further objections to the New Brunswick Telephone Company's bill. The speech of Premier Pugsley indicates that he has given the question thoughtful consideration and is prepared to go a long way to protect the public from unjust exactions by the company which is obtaining a virtual monopoly of the telephone business in New Brunswick. But apparently representatives of the municipalities are not so satisfied. The company's agents asserted that no capitalization less than \$2,000,000 would suffice, and that there was not a trace of water in the stock, present or prospective. Surely these gentlemen are going to be asked to tell the innocent public what this capitalization represents. It is a fact that even in these good times a million and a half or two millions represents a vast sum of money. It doubtless would be a simple matter for the telephone men to give some satisfactory proof that this immense capitalization is justified. There is no such proof before the country so far as we know. Members of the Legislature cannot too frequently be reminded that now and not some years hence is the time to guard against telephone exactions. A swollen capitalization is always used subsequently to explain high tolls. That it will be used in New Brunswick there is every reason to expect unless the government makes such action impossible. It certainly is surprising that the representatives of the municipalities have not demanded more information from the New Brunswick company in regard to these matters. They might with propriety inquire what was paid for the Central Company, and whether or not the entire capital of that concern is to figure at its face as a legitimate portion of the New Brunswick company's capitalization. What do the combined companies own that represents or that is going to represent \$2,000,000?

From the Premier's remarks we may confidently expect a progressive and fair government telephone measure. He appreciates the importance of cheap telephones and of telephone extension wherever the business in sight justifies it. He is opposed to excessive tolls, an attitude which implies a determination to afford prompt relief where tolls are shown to be excessive. He is ready, it would appear, to make provision for the taking over of the telephone business by the government under certain conditions. Provision evidently will be made, too, to give the municipalities proper powers with respect to pole wires, the destruction of trees, and similar matters. If the municipal delegates are given an opportunity to confer with the government relative to the preparation of its telephone measure, they will do well to point out that the basis of excessive tolls is excessive capitalization, and to ask that the promoters of the company bill be required to show reasonable cause, in the way of facts and figures, why any such capitalization is required. There is no occasion for haste in this matter. The thing to be decided and that will be avoided if the members are watchful of the public interest, is a measure which will give the company power to exact revenue sufficient to pay dividends on a capital which their property and their operations cannot justify. And the time to exercise care in the matter is now. It is better to go slow now than to sue for relief hereafter, for relief in such cases is not always quickly or easily obtained. If the municipal delegates consent to a \$2,000,000 capitalization before they are satisfied that it is or will be necessary and legitimate they will have failed to serve the interests they represent.

## THE SUNDAY NEWSPAPER

We issue a paper today as usual, and will continue to do so until the provincial legislature has declared that such a course is illegal. This action is not taken in defiance of the Dominion statute, nor in opposition to the principle of Sunday observance, but because we are very strongly of the opinion that the publication of a Sunday morning paper can be justified to the minds of all reasonable men, who take the trouble to investigate the subject.—Victoria Colonist.

And this Sunday Colonist contains the paid advertisements of nineteen churches whose ministers and trustees desire to draw public attention to their services. It may be inferred, therefore, that the British Columbia Legislature will not declare the Sunday newspapers of British Columbia illegal. The Colonist is not published on Mondays, its contention being that to issue a newspaper on Monday involves more Sunday work than to issue on Sunday. The Sunday paper on Sunday morning, which means that much of the work involved in its preparation is done on Saturday night. In further explanation the Colonist says:

"We claim that to place in the hands

of the public on Sunday morning a clean and wholesome paper is not objectionable upon any ground whatever. If the intention of the Parliament were to return to the old Puritan Sunday, when it was deemed both illegal and immoral to read any thing at all on that day of the week, except the Bible, and perhaps sermons by people, whose views on all points were strictly orthodox, according to the orthodoxy of those days, we could understand why the clergy should object to a newspaper being at the disposal of the people on Sunday morning; but no one makes any claim of the kind. There is no attempt to say that people shall only read certain things on Sunday; all that is attempted is to say that they shall not read a paper that is printed and distributed early on Sunday morning. Thus the Dominion enactment and the efforts of the Lord's Day Alliance, so far as this phase of the legislation is concerned, are directed especially against those newspapers, which have always observed Sunday by refraining from labor as far as possible."

On the other hand the preparation of a newspaper for Monday morning involves some Sunday labor by a limited class, which work in no way disturbs the Sabbath quiet or attracts public attention. This plan is regarded by many as less objectionable than the printing and distributing of a paper early Sunday morning. As a matter of fact British Columbia will continue to have its Sunday papers and the East will demand papers on Monday. The end of it will be publication seven days a week all over Canada, and that end will not be many years in arriving.

## WEIGHING THE SOUL

Joscoe American doctors, or reporters, are responsible for a circumstantial story to the effect that the human soul has been weighed. In the course of the yarn it is alleged that certain physicians in a public institution weighed several patients immediately before and immediately after they expired, and so acquired the evidence of the scales that there was an instantaneous loss of about an ounce in weight as soon as life became extinct. One deduction of a troublesome sort appears to be that all of the souls were of the same weight. The persons responsible for this particular story would have made it slightly more convincing if they had given the public a trifle more leeway; for while the weight of man's immortal essence has not hitherto been the subject of close estimate there is a general tendency to assume that some souls are much greater than others. If the beings who connected the story have any souls it may be guessed that the lot together would not balance an ounce weight.

A daring contemporary suggests that since the human soul has now been weighed, the doctors should locate it. If some cases, the writer speculates, they will find it near the pocketbook; in others near the stomach. It has been said that their failure to find the soul during their explorations of the human system has made skeptics of many doctors. It must be said for them that their search has been diligent and prolonged. Yet it eludes them. Men may not measure it, or weigh it, or locate it. Nor can they dispose of it. They can speculate about it; and worry about it. It is held, too, that they may sell it, lose it, or save it. Only, they cannot apply finite measures to the infinite.

## PANICKY

Wall street is suffering from a bad case of "nerves," following a prolonged period of inflation and growing public hostility to the sort of finance of which Mr. Harrison so glibly testified of late. Stock-watering and over-expansion, followed by legislative action, present or threatened, have combined to make "the street" an easy prey to almost any sort of rumor. At any new story ticks values tumble, though the real business of the country was never more buoyant. Production is making new records, but while agriculture, manufacturing and mining are in a flourishing condition there is deep uneasiness in financial, or rather in speculative circles. Some are predicting a most serious panic, though just what sort of event is going to start it they are not prepared to say. They point to depressed conditions in London and Berlin as significant. British consuls touched yesterday, and a fraction yesterday, said to be the lowest record in forty-one years. Oddly enough the American market seems to have gone off because of vague reports from abroad, while in European centres, the source of these reports, there was less disturbance. This would go to show how much more unstable the present financial structure in the United States is than in Europe where more conservative methods have been obtained.

Mr. Roosevelt is being held responsible for much of the manifest uneasiness. There are stories that financial magnates have appealed to him or threatened him. If true, such appeals or threats will not mend matters. Mr. Roosevelt is not responsible for the rising tide of water or for Mr. Harrison and others of that school. Having sown the wind they are more than likely to reap the whirlwind. Mr. Roosevelt may have done much toward shaping public opinion with respect to these matters, but it may well be that he will continue to regard his attitude as justified. The "interests," in a word, want their own way. They cannot have it now. Mr. Roosevelt cannot give it to them if he would. The business of making notes and disregarding the fact that settling day must come sometime has its weaknesses. That business is at the bottom of the trouble Wall street has today, and it is that which threatens to bring about the more serious trouble which Wall street fears. It is possible that a panic is necessary to reduce things to the normal, and it is possible that a panic is necessary to reduce things to the normal, and it is possible that a panic is necessary to reduce things to the normal.

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## AT FREDERICTON

It is now probable that the aldermanic bill favoring the ward system will be held up by the Legislature in order that the question may be submitted to the electors of St. John, presumably at the forthcoming elections. Those who advocate the ward system and those who oppose it alike profess to represent the view of the public; but so far the only fact of importance established is that there is much difference of opinion as to what is the best method of choosing a Common Council. It has been proposed at the last moment, evidently as a matter of compromise, that the ward system be reinstated and that the aldermen-at-large be increased in number to six, making a Council of nineteen members. The effect of accepting this would be to establish an unwieldy city government, whereas the situation demands more simple rather than more complex methods. There are more reasons for reducing the number of civic representatives than for increasing it, so far as we can see. Indeed none of the plans thus far put forward has so much to commend it as the proposal that the city be re-divided—that there be six districts, each represented by two men, together with two or three aldermen-at-large. As this plan is without advocates at Fredericton and is not before the Legislature, it is likely that no change will be made at present but that there will be a popular vote in April as between the present system and the ward system. Such a vote would show where the people stand with respect to the system we now have if the great body of the voters could be induced to go to the polls; but in the absence of any more exciting than those in sight it may be expected that a very large number will remain at home. There is very little prospect that public apathy with regard to these questions is going to be less than usual, and usually it is very great.

In our Fredericton despatches there is an extended account of the telephone situation, the most interesting feature of which perhaps is the likelihood that the government's telephone measure will be a progressive and satisfactory one, making provision for the regulation of tolls, for some public inspection of the telephone company's operations, and for the taking over of the business by the government should such a course become advisable. Representatives of the municipalities, we must suppose, will request provision for municipal exchanges in communities which may at any time decide in favor of them, and guarantee long-distance connection for such exchanges.

The matter of capitalization will come up again in connection with the company's bill, and no doubt the gentlemen asking for the bill will be asked to show, in a business-like way, why the proposed \$2,000,000 capitalization is necessary and legitimate. Properly speaking, examination of this question would involve some delving into the history of both the companies constituting the merger.

Without doing injustice to any man who has invested his money in telephone stock, the Legislature should be able at this time to guard the people of the province effectively against unjust tolls, against arbitrary or unwarranted increase of tolls, against the exaction of earnings sufficient to pay more than fair interest on the capital actually invested in the business. Effective regulation of the tolls is not a simple matter. It should begin, and now, with a justified capitalization; and as for the future the machinery intended to give relief should be of the clearest and most practical character possible. Together with regulation of tolls, there will, of course, be conditions regarding necessary extension of lines, and some sort of guarantee against any service below a reasonable standard of efficiency.

There has been a very great increase in the use of the telephone in this province within a few years, and even greater progress is to be expected. The government fully recognizes how much this public utility affects the people of the province and how necessary it is that their rights should be guarded. Not long ago there was every prospect of (freed) competition in the telephone business, but now that has vanished. Practically the bill before the House will give the whole field to one company, for competition is no longer to be anticipated. Such being the case, it is very clear that now is the time for legislative action in the public interest.

Fredericton carries the day in the matter of using the river to carry away its sewage. It is an important gain for the capital, which was in an unfortunate position in more respects than one; but it is not easy to see how the majority of the House justifies its verdict. Unquestionably the matter bristled with difficulties and another decision would have been awkward. It must now be hoped that the number of residents below Fredericton who will actually suffer from the decision is smaller than many suppose.

## NOTE AND COMMENT

The victims of the Toulon disaster were much more numerous than even the first gloomy reports indicated.

Parliament decrees that post office employees are to travel free on the railroads when on business bent. Why not extend the privilege to other well-meaning classes?

The Maritime Merchant earnestly urges St. John and Halifax to bury the hatchet, though as a matter of fact so much as a hand's breadth of the handle has not been visible for a long time.

Japan is said to have discovered how to explode a torpedo "by means of wireless telegraphy." And she does not appear eager to tell Europe how the trick is done. Also she is sending to the Jamestown Exposition naval demonstration a cruiser built at home, carrying four 12-

inch guns and steaming twenty-two knots an hour, which is record speed for a ship with that sort of battery. San Francisco should be reasonable.

There is to be no assessment legislation this year—indeed there is no prospect of any. Of the civic bills sent to Fredericton the more important ones are apparently going to be dropped. Civic reform is not making great headway hereabouts.

T. P. O'Connor writes of Lord Curzon as the coming man among the Unionists: "As is so often the case, the dark horse is reappearing on the distant horizon, and, for all one knows, may be romping on to the course before everybody knows where he is; and the dark horse is Lord Curzon. Lord Curzon has enormous political powers and tremendous political ambition. I watched him for several years in the House of Commons, and I never saw a man in the position of an under secretary who was able to win so much parliamentary applause and power."

The Toronto Electric Light Company is asking the Ontario Legislature for permission to increase its capital stock from three million to four million dollars. The Toronto Globe says of the matter:

"Twenty years ago, when the Consumers' Gas Company went to the Legislative Assembly with a similar proposal, the Mowat Government set a precedent, which cannot now be evaded with impunity, by incorporating in the private act a provision requiring the new issue of stock to be sold at public auction. If the Electric Light Company is permitted now to issue stock without doing the same thing the whole transaction will show how far both the city and the Legislature have traveled on the down grade in a quarter of a century. It will be interesting to see how far the other Controllers are prepared to go with the Mayor, and what the City Council will do about the case."

## Of Havillah and Araby

Who brings from Havillah the precious gold? Who brings from him the spice of Araby? You that have seen the desert's floor out-rolled.

You that have beaten over many seas— For you the surf has sung of ancient Greece, And you have forgotten peacocks' feathers each dome, And you have stood amid the deathlike peace Where ruins tell of Caesar's wondrous Rome.

But you take come with curious gems and wares, With scented essences of which sleep-graven beads, With silken mystery they called the sign, And these, and more, you tumble in a heap. Nor do you care to raise the veil of while When you caught out of some forgotten sleep, The dream of time that drifts along the Nile.

Nor have you wrought in memory's firm clutch The midnight light that was dripping through the palms, And seemed to leave wherever it might touch A silver glow wrought of all soothing balm.

Nor have you brought an echo of the song You heard come peeling from the hills at night, All crystal-clear and full of joy, and strong, So that it chorused ever on and on.

One brings back nothing—nothing in his hand, You bring the wares that heap the heavy load, And yet of all you found in alien lands I wonder which of you has kept the good. I wonder which brought best of all you saw, Of all you heard—in truth, 'twere good to see.

Who has the precious gold of Havillah, Who has the precious spice of Araby? —Chicago Poet.

## The Deserted Claim

Up where the snow shines pure and white On the peaks that point to the summer sky, Up in the gulch by the evening light, A claim deserted and left alone.

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St. John, March, 1907.

# Men's Spring Suits

NEW STYLES. SPLENDID VALUES.  
We have been planning for the past year or eight months to make this spring's stock more attractive than ever. The attractive patterns, the splendid styles, the perfect fit of the garments and the low prices at which they are marked, will certainly appeal to you. We have samples of a number of lines which will be mailed on application.

Men's Spring Suits, \$5 to \$20.00  
Men's Spring Pants, \$1 to \$4.50

J. N. HARVEY, Tailoring and Clothing  
199 to 207 Union Street.

## MINTON HOLLINS TILES

Have a World-wide Reputation for Durability and Appearance

We carry a very large assortment for HEARTHES, FACINGS, VESTIBULES, BATHROOMS, WALLS, BASE AND MOULDING TILES. Special designs submitted when required. Write us or call at our store when tiling of any kind is needed.

W. H. THORNE & CO., Limited  
Market Square, St. John, N. B.

## HUMAN SOUL

WEIGHS AN OUNCE, ASSERT DOCTORS

Four Physicians Say it Exists and They've Catalogued it Like Liver and Heart

Have Been at Work on Scheme of a Year—Dying Patients Placed on Delicate Scales and the "Flight of Life" is Watched During Experiments.

A Boston despatch to the New York Herald says: That the human soul does exist is the conclusion of some Massachusetts physicians, Drs. Duncan MacDougal, Sybil of Havillah, and Dr. Gout, of Lawrence, who for six years have been conducting a remarkable series of experiments undertaken with the object of demonstrating from a physical standpoint whether or not there is such a thing. The experiments were carried on in a sanitarium in this state and have been secretly guarded until an actual result could be shown. Now, it is believed that something decisive has been produced.

The results obtained are known to but a half dozen scientists aside from the experimenters, although it is planned to make the whole discovery public in the near future.

The physicians assert that through their researches the human soul has at last been catalogued upon scientific principles as an actual, material thing just as the heart, the kidneys, the stomach and all organs of the body. They declare they have ascertained that when the soul flits from the body it diminishes the weight of the body by a certain measurable amount, and that this amount can be weighed in actual pounds or fractions of pounds.

The difference between the weight of the live human body and the body a moment after death or when the soul has quitted it was found to be from one half ounce to one ounce and to this it is said there can be no other possible solution than that this is the weight of the human soul.

In every case the loss was shown after all known scientific deductions such as the loss of respiratory air, of moisture and of all excretions and secretions of the body had been taken into consideration.

In order that the experimenting physicians might accurately ascertain that this loss was not due to some loss of some peculiar physical characteristic of sex both men and women have been subjects of the experiment.

In nearly all cases under test diminishment took place upon the instant life ceased to exist although in one case there was a delay of nearly a minute before the diminishment of the weight of the particular soul in realizing that its physical fetters had been broken.

The method of finding this result was followed by the doctors was to place the patients in bed upon one of the platform of scales made expressly for the purpose and to balance the weight and by placing an equal weight on the opposite platform.

These scales were so delicately constructed as to be sensitive to a weight of less than one-tenth of an ounce.

Dr. Duncan MacDougal of Havillah expressed surprise and annoyance when asked concerning the test, and he consented to go somewhat into detail. Dr. MacDougal believes neither in Spiritualism nor in any other psychic phenomena except as they can be dealt with by science and he introduced his statement with the declaration that his experiments were made purely with the idea of establishing scientific facts.

"During my practice among hospital patients and in being present at the bedside of many dying patients my curiosity was aroused as to whether there might be some material change discoverable by actual tests which would throw a new light upon the mystery of the flight of life," he said.

"When a person dies the current belief is that his spirit or soul continues to live. My first thought was: Has continued consciousness and personal individuality any existence? It is known as a force—as a personality real and actual. It is impossible to think of it as not occupying space. It must be a space-occupying body. With that granted, the next query was: 'Has it weight? Was it gravitated matter or some other form of unknown definition?'

"Four other physicians under my direction made the first test upon a patient dying with tuberculosis. This man was one of the ordinary type of the usual American temperament.

"We placed him, a few hours preceding death, upon a scale platform, which I had constructed and which was accurately balanced. Four hours later, with five doctors in attendance, he died.

"The instant life ceased the opposite scale pan fell with a suddenness that was astonishing—as if something had been suddenly lifted from the body. Immediately

afterwards I began my experiments with other patients. The results were similar. In every case upon the death of the patient the scale pan fell with a suddenness that was astonishing—as if something had been suddenly lifted from the body. Immediately

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