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SAINT JOHN, SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 8, 1911.

LAURIER'S CAMPAIGN IN QUEBEC.

Commenting on the fact that the Laurier plan of campaign for the approaching general election is already taking definite shape, the Winnipeg Telegram accurately sizes up the situation when it says: "The Prairie Provinces is offered Reciprocity, to the Maritime Provinces a collection of public works, involving colossal expenditures, and to Quebec an anti-British programme that will make the Nationalist movement pale into insignificance."

In New Brunswick the people have grown so accustomed to the bait thrown out to them by Mr. Pugsley in the form of wharves and 10,000 ton steamers in Courtenay Bay, the early completion of the Transcontinental and such like flimflam of his fertile imagination, that only the most rabid of his followers can now be deluded into rising to the occasion. His more recent advocacy of the Reciprocity Agreement, which by his own testimony will deprive this part of its natural rights as the Atlantic outlet for Western wheat, should dispel any lingering notions as to the genuineness of his former promises. It is some years now since Mr. Pugsley "discovered Courtenay Bay," and although we have gazed fixedly upon it ever since, another election is upon us and still, beyond a large map which occasionally appears in his organ, the Telegraph, and some borings to show the depth of the mud, in the way of development there is nothing. The Liberal plan of campaign, as far as New Brunswick and St. John are concerned, will be very much at a discount.

Quite the most interesting of Laurier's plans is the campaign to which the Telegram refers as napped out for Quebec. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has reached the conclusion that his chief danger has been created by the Nationalists. Of this conviction he gave spectacular evidence at the Imperial Conference, where his every word and action emphasized his warm adherence to those principles which Mr. Bourassa embodied in the Nationalist platform. The Liberal leaders in Quebec will no longer attempt to meet the argument of the Nationalists as they did in the Drummond-Arthabaska election. They will concur in it and express a deeper attachment to the principles which have made the Nationalists a powerful factor in Quebec than the Nationalists themselves.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier commenced this new line of procedure at the Imperial Conference. Now his newspapers in Quebec are taking it up with feverish energy. La Presse, the strongest Liberal newspaper in Quebec, has sounded the charge in an inspired London cable, which says:—

"I learn from good authority that during the recent conference between Canadian representatives and the Admiralty, Hon. L. P. Brodeur obtained a clear and explicit recognition by the British minister of the purely national character of our navy in the agreement relating to the establishment of naval stations under the exclusive control of the Canadian Government, and that our officers are to be on the same footing as those of the British Navy. It appears, however, that the Admiralty tried to give to the different rules of the Navy an 'imperialistic' character, but it is understood that Mr. Brodeur succeeded in safeguarding completely the principle of Canadian autonomy, even to the least details."

The identity of the author of that dispatch is not a matter of conjecture. It was dictated by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and was designed for the special consumption of the Nationalists of Quebec. Mr. Bourassa could not ask, and has not asked for more than the inspired cable credits to the achievement of Hon. L. P. Brodeur. Of course, Mr. Brodeur has not done what the cable says he has done. He could not by any understanding reached in London vary the character of the Canadian navy as defined by an act of the Dominion Parliament. He could not alter the control of the naval stations as fixed by Dominion statute, and he could not place Canadian officers on the same footing as those of the British Navy, for that was provided for long before Hon. L. P. Brodeur set foot in London. That portion of the dispatch is important only in its revelation of what Sir Wilfrid Laurier desires the Nationalist following to think he has done as a parting shot at British connection.

The concluding paragraph is not a veiled falsehood. It is clear, straight, and specific. The British Admiralty is charged with endeavoring to coerce Canada into an arrangement which would destroy the national character of the Canadian navy. No intelligent Canadian needs to be told that the charge is without foundation. The British Admiralty, from the outset, has left the overseas states the freest liberty of action in the formulation of their naval policies.

It is true that the admiralty expressed its views as to the most effective naval measures which the overseas states could employ. It is also true that all the self-governing states, with the single exception of Canada, acted on the Admiralty's advice, but there has been no suggestion of interference or coercion. This latest attempt to represent Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. L. P. Brodeur as doughty warriors who have saved Canada from the clutches of the British Admiralty would be amusing except for the motive behind it. The motive is to arouse racial prejudice in Quebec and to stamp Sir Wilfrid Laurier as its active and ideal mouthpiece. Thus we have a pretty clear insight into the campaign which is to be waged in Quebec. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his lieutenants will carry into the Quebec constituencies thrilling reports of the tail-twisting exploits practised on the British lion in London, and it will remain for Mr. Bourassa to conceive some new and terrible tail-twisting devices to keep pace with his erstwhile leader. That such a campaign should be planned to please a section of the Quebec electorate must be repugnant to the spirit of Canadianism. But even more repugnant is the fact that the instigator and principal promoter of that particular line of campaign is the Prime Minister of Canada.

THE WAR AGAINST OPIUM.

China, in the eyes of the West, has been so chronically the land of vast attempts and painfully slow achievement that the story of the war against opium which is approaching its successful close, falls little short of the marvelous. The progress of that campaign is graphically described by Rosa Pendleton Chiles in the Forum.

On January 1, 1908, China began a three years' probation; upon the showing she made during these three years depended the sympathies and co-operation of the outside world. At the end of the probationary period it was estimated by the Chinese Government that the cultivation of the poppy had been decreased by 80 per cent.; the estimate by British consular officers is from 25 to 40 per cent.; the estimate by United States consuls is about 50 per cent.

Even at the lowest figure, the result is astonishing and leaves absolutely no doubt of the desire and determination of the Chinese to rid themselves of the opium plague. There have been no less than two million closings of opium dens. The public burnings of confiscated opium and smoking apparatus are almost a daily event. The mandarins have set the example for the nation; there are cases of aged officials who have given their lives in the attempt to rid themselves of a life-long habit.

In accordance with the agreement concluded between the Chinese and British Governments, last May, the total extinction of the opium trade is to be effected by 1917. Until that time the British Government agrees that no opium shall be conveyed to any province of China that has suppressed the cultivation and importation of native opium.

As so frequently happens when so-called vested interests yield before moral pressure, it turns out that India which raised opium for the Chinese market, will not be the loser by the suppression of opium cultivation. The cultivators of opium have regularly borrowed from the government the capital necessary for raising the annual poppy crop. This capital, together with land and labor involved, will be released for the raising of food products of which India is so notoriously in need.

The British Government is to compensate the government of India for the loss of fifteen or twenty million dollars in annual revenue arising from the opium trade; but even without the intervention of the British Government, the loss would shortly have been made good by the rise of more salutary industries.

THE COST OF ARMAMENTS.

The cost of the armaments maintained by the eight powers of the world has lately been computed by G. de Contenson and Jules Roche. The aggregate military and naval expenditures of those powers in 1901 was \$1,635,800,000. In 1909 the aggregate had reached \$1,676,800,000.

On analyzing the figures the actual increase on a peace basis is seen to be much larger than at first appears. In 1901 Great Britain's expenses were altogether abnormal. The drain of the Boer war was then at its height and her budget was approximately two and a half times that of an ordinary year. Allowing for this it is seen that between 1901 and 1909 the annual cost of maintaining the armaments had actually increased not by \$41,000,000, as appears on the face of the statistics, but by the enormous sum of \$405,400,000.

The following figures show the amounts spent by each of these powers for army and navy purposes in the years given:—

	1901.	1909.
Germany	\$190,000,000	\$206,000,000
Russia	228,000,000	299,000,000
Great Britain	\$595,000,000	397,000,000
United States	211,000,000	285,000,000
France	216,000,000	228,000,000
Italy	78,000,000	96,000,000
Austria	71,000,000	83,000,000
Japan	58,000,000	\$5,000,000

"Boer War."

The above figures combine the army and navy expenditures, but the authors point out that the outlay of the United States for the army alone in the year 1901 was \$22,000,000, but rose to \$121,000,000 in 1909. Great Britain and France have kept their expenditures down. Germany, Russia and the United States show enormous increases, but the percentage of increase for Japan is larger than for any other of the powers.

THE "BLUE ROSE."

The "blue rose" seems to be a disappointment. A report from Oregon adds another to a long list of failures, for the production of a rose of that color is a task which floriculturists set themselves years ago. At the London flower show last winter it was announced that a south of England grower had been successful, and soon afterward it was asserted that a Japanese garden-er had also produced a perfect "blue rose." In both cases, however, the flowers were small, according to the reports of investigators, and at only one stage of their bloom purplish in color. They were far from the rose grower's ideal of a large, brilliant bloom with a permanency of color.

This appears to be likewise true of the Oregon flower. The plant, which has been the subject of much care and considerable hopefulness, was secured two years ago in Nebraska and is in bloom now for the first time. When the blossom appears it is pink in color, and according to the description, "just before the petals fall off they change to a purplish blue." The flower is said to have little in common with the modern rose, resembling somewhat "the wild rose or sweet briar" and at no time is the color very distinct. The Portland Oregonian says that florists "are inclined to brand the flower a fake." Apparently roses were not intended to be blue, and with such a large family of beauties to choose from, one of that color would not after all be much of an addition.

Current Comment

(Montreal Gazette.)

The mottoes which are to decorate the scenery on Sir Wilfrid Laurier's return are announced. Some of them have a familiar sound. That car of welcomes to himself the great statesman carried round with him on his election talking tour in 1908 must have had its contents taken out of storage and brightened up for the occasion.

(Montreal Herald.)

Religion is, of course, free; but it is open to question whether the quality of the religion which induces an average generosity of five cents per communicant per week, or a grand total of two dollars and sixty cents per annum is real.

(Quebec Chronicle.)

Mr. Fielding did not succeed in wrecking confederation nor will he be successful in his present attempt to wreck Canada. His only successful wrecking business was the Farmers' Bank.

(Valparaiso South Pacific Mail.)

The vast interior of the South American continent, amounting to some 5,000,000 square miles, is commercially undeveloped and in many parts unexplored.

(Lady's Pictorial.)

Nothing astonishes the intelligent alien or the visiting American more than the amount of public work which is done in these islands for no reward at all.

(Vancouver Province.)

In applying the roller process test to Mr. Borden the Grain Growers' Association have been obliged to grade him No. 1 hard.

DEAN'S REPORT ON CATHEDRAL

Very Rev. Dean Schofield Makes Statement to Cathedral Chapter as to Damage in Recent Fire.

The report upon the condition of Christ Church Cathedral, Fredericton, made by the Dean to the Cathedral Chapter, on July 6, was as follows:

Brethren:—As you are all well aware, the diocese has been called upon to face a dire calamity in the partial destruction by fire of our most beautiful and much loved Cathedral. That God works "in a mysterious way His wonders in the hearts of men," the members of our Church must indeed admit in the present crisis. I for one do not attempt at this juncture to even humbly bow before God's inscrutable will as so unlooked for an event. We could not have been too proud of our Cathedral, though we may not have thanked Him as heartily for its beauty and power, though it is possible we did not as a diocese, or as a congregation, allow its beauty and power to lead us nearly as it might have done into closer communion or likeness with Him who alone makes beauty powerful. We can only say that the fire was a terrible visitation, and in simple trust and courage will undertake the task of restoration.

The first step to be taken must be an attempt to know the facts of the situation. To this end we shall have to get into communication at once with competent architects and builders, and this I shall ask you presently to do. To this end we shall have to proceed to do. But since the newspaper reports have been of necessity more or less inadequate, and since I have felt that you, and through you, the diocese at large should know as quickly as possible all that can be known, I have ventured to put down a few crude and hastily written notes of the actual condition of affairs.

First, as to the fabric. As far as we can judge, the walls of the nave, since the fire, are in a state of ruin. The spire is entirely demolished, and nothing is left of the tower but the four walls; and these will probably all have to come down. The new organ, already well known for its beauty of tone, is, I expect, a total loss, since not only was there fire actually in the instrument, but the water was poured into it for hours. The congregation only last March made the last payment upon the organ which cost upwards of \$7,000. To give us an idea of the work of restoration, James F. Robertson's \$5,000 of insurance. The venerable Sub-Dean Street, in a pathetic letter, has enclosed three dollars as a first contribution from himself and Mrs. Street. We can count without doubt upon the liberality not only of "church people," but of very many of those who belong to other Christian bodies, for already most sympathetic letters and resolutions have been received from all parts of the province. To sum up, then: While you will perceive from this hastily written report that our noble Cathedral has been sadly and terribly dealt with, while to stand within the ruins today presents a sight which may well make the stoutest heart among us find control exceedingly difficult, yet my own judgment, formed upon a careful study of the situation, is one in which I hope I shall carry you all with me.

I believe, if we are prepared to take up the task in honest faith and steady courage, sparing neither patience nor expense, that we can, under God, restore once again practically the very Cathedral which John Medley, Bishop and Saint, gave to this diocese some sixty years ago.

C. D. SCHOFIELD, Dean.

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and be rebuilt, as each face is badly cracked down the centre. As for the once glorious roof, while it is still in position, there would seem to be no hope of saving any of it, so terrible is the destruction that has been wrought by the flames. Regarding the foundations, nothing can be ascertained as yet with certainty. Portions of the floor near the west end are destroyed by the flames and it may be that both fire and water will have done serious damage.

Regarding the stained glass of the windows it is impossible to speak with any certainty. To the casual observer four of the seven panels of the east window are intact, while the portions in the tracery seem badly damaged. It is difficult, however, to believe that when one panel in a window has been badly destroyed by the heat, the lead in the next window should not have suffered. We may find, I fear, that much of the glass which seems in good condition will have to be broken down and re-set. The west window seems to have been badly damaged, both as regards glass and the tracery. Some of the stained glass, however, be due to smoke only, and be capable of treatment. Of the aisle windows perhaps more than half the glass is saved, but of the windows in the clerestory probably less than half is saved.

With respect to the furniture, most of the movable furniture has been saved, in more or less satisfactory condition, by many willing workers, who at real risk to themselves have earned our lasting gratitude. Vestments, hangings, and even the grass eagle lectern, were brought out of the building. Such priceless treasures as the William IV. cloth of gold frontal and the King Edward VI. Bible were rescued unharmed. The Bishop Medley cenotaph and the tombs of both the bishop and Mrs. Medley escaped injury in a most marvellous manner. The first is intact, though I fear it is somewhat defaced. The sacramental plate, Bishop Medley's diary and other documents of value, thanks to the strong room which Bishop Kingston had built, are in perfect condition. Even the daily record of services, with its names of distinguished visitors, etc.—while I have not seen it since the fire—is, I know, in safety somewhere, for I myself handed it into some one's keeping. So much for what was saved, a goodly heritage I think you will admit.

But there are losses, and heavy ones. First, the exquisite chime of eight bells is gone. As far as we could tell, not a bell of the eight fell. For an hour during the conflagration they rang bravely at each quarter, and even when their motive power was gone they melted still in position. Several of the iron tongues are all there is left. With the bells, the companion clock is also, I fear, a complete loss, and though some will think the remark foolish, it will be a difficult task to replace the cathedral clock. For 60 years it has done its work, watched over so carefully by the White family, father, son and grandson, that almost without interruption in all that time it has warned the town of the flight of time.

The beautiful copy of Murillo's Holy Family, is also completely destroyed. The sanctuary carpet, worked by English ladies at the time of the cathedral's building, is, of course, ruined, while the pews and stalls, though for the most part intact, are defaced and injured by falling timbers and the deluge of water.

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C. D. SCHOFIELD, Dean.

THREE SCHOOL TEACHERS RETIRE ON PENSIONS.

Fredericton, July 7.—Three provincial teachers were placed on the teachers' pension list at a meeting of the provincial board of education Thursday. They are Miss Catherine Hennessey, Moncton, with half a century record in the teaching profession, and Mrs. Elizabeth Vandall, St. John. The third teacher to secure a pension is P. P. Morrissey, of Newcastle, who has taught school on the North Shore for nearly 40 years.

The resignation of T. B. Kidner as director of manual training was accepted and the chief superintendent was instructed to write Mr. Kidner, expressing the appreciation of his services and the regret felt at his departure. Teacher Francis Sackville, was appointed director of manual training. F. S. Morrison, St. John; T. L. Adams, Exeter, N.S., and W. E. Currier, Louisville, Ky., were applicants. Graduates from the school of domestic science in connection with Acadia University will be recognized as teachers in household science until further notice.

A letter was read from Hon. J. L. Hanson, minister of education at Perth West Australia, asking for the assistance and courtesy of the educational authorities and citizens generally to a tour of Australia this summer. The chief superintendent was authorized to render the necessary assistance.

An order passed the board forming the school districts of Andover Village and Hillandale into one school district.

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The telephone instrument completing the new train despatching system was installed in the despatcher's room at the Union station yesterday.

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