## POOR DOCUMENT

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN N. B., MARCH 6, 1901.

## RAILWAY COMMISSION

be or can be safely established in unis-country. A railway commission has been established in the mother country. Let us look for a moment how it operates. When I visited England a few years ago, I spent a couple of days in the beautiful fault growing country of Kent, and there found that the strawberry growers and thippers of France, Holland and Germany were able to send their strawberries to the London market at a less rate of than the local growers had to pay, ough they were within from 40 to 60 s of London. I asked one intelliwersing, why does not your railway com-mission my a remedy? and his reply was the railway company cannot prohibit the shipment from the continent at these low rates; they cannot control the railways cil, speaking with the best recollection of the various questions which have been brought to my attention since I have been minister of railways, I am not aware that has been any discrimination in rates that has not been dealt with by the railway committee of the privy council, if under the law it could deal with

we were able to decide that there had been discrimination and which were deart with effectually. The house will remember the complaint made as to the arrangement made between the Standard Oil Co. with the Grand Trunk and the Oil Co. with the Grand Trunk and the C. P. R. That complaint was capable of being proven within the law and when it was proven there was no weakness in the arm of the railway committee of the privy council to deal with it. We did not hesitate a moment to make up our minds as to what we should do and the result was that this grievance was abated at once. I do not remember any case in which a complaint was made to us from any part of the country in which we did not endeavor to get at the facts and, when it appeared that there was discriminated by ination in the sense contemplated by the law, we have applied the remedy. There have been many complaints made to us of alleged discriminations, but in them there was no discrimination in the sense intended by law, nor was there discrimination in the sense that could be that raise occurred in this way. There was a reduction previously, or when the rate was first fixed. It was away below the schedule. For some reason or other the companies concerned felt that these rates were too low, and they raised them, but they did not raise them beyond, or up to, the schedule of rates allowed them by the law, or when the tariff was submitted and approved by the governor-mouncil. It does not follow by any means that because we approve of a schedule of rates the railway companies will always or to any great degree maintain their rates up to that schedule. That is the maximum. We have to fix a maximum. It is the only way in which rates could be fixed by you or by a railway commission. You cannot fix a rate to-day in this way for a part of its line and another rate to-morrow for another part or its line. You have to make a general rate for district or area of country, arriving as well as you can at a conclusion as to what would be a fair and reasonable necessity of constituter ing a railway in any section of our country, nor is it. difficult to get information as to the probable cost in a general way, and we usually have that information further, and we usually have that information further is any conflict as to the probable cost in a general way.

It is the only way or means of forming a set of the granting of a charter the subject is pretty thoroughly discusse get that country developed. We are, on as to what would be a fair and reasonable maximum rate to allow from the best information you can getilier, considering the different conditions of the different belts or areas. We have to consider the cost of eperating the line. We do not often consider the question of the cost of building the line, or the extent to which bonds have been issued. These are not the things we have in our minds, but we have thought that we could best arrive a a fair result with regard to a tariff of rates by comparing with other roads operating, under like conditions in other countries, it may be, or in our own- arrive a roads. The same experience to filled up, and when the people are crying out for railways, I do not think it we would be maximum scale for the Crow's Nest Pass railway. We took pains to ascertain what were the lines to the south of the boundary.

ways are to them a paramount necessity and because there is no reasonable amount of debt that they do not feel justified in incurring in order to secure railway construction in their midst. the different states and territories to the south of the boundary line, we fix as the maximum a lower schedule of rates upon the C. P. R. traversing the Crow's Nest Pass than were allowed on those other railways. In every single instance I think we fixed lower rates in respect to

haps all the railways, to the south, may maximum. I have no doubt that do it just as we do it. Possibly commission could reach a general con-clusion as to what ought to be a fair maximum rate in respect of all these classifications and in respect of distances has been arrived at by the governor-in-council. It is not a thing which is cap-able of mathematical demonstration. There is no way in which you can figure in the locality will not enable them to pay. We cannot reach these results by and precise scientific method. We have to do it according to the ordanary drawing of improper information from information which they may accurately have. But all the same I frankly acknowledge, as I stated a moment ago, that there are strong reasons why it would be well for us to try the experiment of a railway commission. It is not purpose at the present session. I may, bility myself. I want to disabuse the mind of my friend from East Grey (Dr, Sproule) when he suggests, not probably intending to do anybody any injustice, that my inclination may, perhaps, be all right, but that I find myself overborne or prevented by the influence of others, or perhaps by my colleagues. I want to want to hope or that the hope when the transport from any say to the house that so far as I have any means of judging, my colleagues are as well disposed as I am to favor an experiwell disposed as I am to favor an experi-ment of a railway commission, and I am prepared to say confidentially that I be-lieve it will be one way of convincing the public mind that there are difficulties in

the way of handling these questions, which are not of a political character, which do not take their rise from any political influence or pressure, but which are necessary incident to the transaction of business that has grown to enormous proportion during according assert ways, and it is proportion during recent years, and it is an immensely complicated problem to solve. I do not say that the railway commissions in the United States have not done good work, but they have fallen en everywhere short of the expectations which were forward of them. I do not that it appeared competition was the only means of securing lower rates, but he submitted en everywhere short of the expectations which were formed of them. I do not say the railway commission in England has not done good work, but I do say that they absolutely failed to meet the expectations which were held out respecting it, and there is a strong agitation in that country against its continuance.

During the course of this discussion some of our friends have pointed out a few matters which they think might fairly come within the scope of such commission. The member from Saskatchewan

mission. The member from Saskatchewan (Davis) thought that the charter mongers perhaps might be sent adrift if a railway commission were established, and that the duty might well be imposed upon the commission of investigating into the insufficiency of all applications to parkarailway act to make it clear just what ment for rathway charters and reporting the conditions upon which these charters should be granted and the extent of bonding privileges that should be con-ceded. I hardly think that parliament would be willing to denude itself entirely of the power of granting railway charters. We are supposed to make some enquiry into these applications. We are in the habit of enquiring into the necessity for the railway asked for, and of imposing re-

report of the commission appointed to audit the accounts and investigate the sale of Virden and other town sites in the Northwest, of which Mr. Osler, Lord Strathcona, R. B. Angus and W. B. Scarth were trustees. Osler took umbrage at summaries of the report published in ministerial organs, which he looked upon as attacks upon himself.

The minister of interior replied that the report was from reliable department-al officers. He proposed entering action for the monies said to be due the

It is rumored that the opposition has

changed its mind about short session and

railway act to make it clear just what cases should go to the railway committee and what to the courts.

and what to the courts.

He recognized the necessity of more absolute control of charter mongers and suggested the requiring of a deposit when a charter was granted as a possible re-

medial measure. He also agreed that the bonding power of railways should be

made to correspond in some degree to the cost of construction.

Wilfrid Laurier has abandoned his inten-

will go in his place, leaving Ottawa probably on March 16.

The opposition will fight Mr. Tarte's estimates, changing tactics from personal attack to an onslaught on his department.

The letter carriers who waited on the

HON. JOHN COSTIGAN'S MOTION.

It Is Discussed In The House By Men on Both Sides--Resolution Carried Sweepingly.

the spirit in which they were given. We were entering upon a new century and had just welcomed the Canadian soldiers returning from the battlefield where they fought side by side without any question as to what altar they worshipped at. He wished to give further evidence that Canadians were all British and that there was no necessity or cause to divide them.

"I move this resolution," he went on to say, "because I feel impelled, on behalf of those I represent, to ask parlament to sympathize with them and to relieve them from certain expressions connected with the coronation oath, I would not propose to touch it to the extent of the coronation oath, I would not propose to touch it to the extent of the coronation oath, I would not propose to touch it to the extent of the coronation of parliament now was not considered when they tend to relieve the constituency of the declaration, is reported to have said that though he deplored the language of the declaration, it must be remembered that the enactment represented views of the period of the coronation oath, I would not propose to touch it to the extent of the coronation of the coronation oath, I would not propose to touch it to the extent of the coronation of the coronation oath, I would not propose to touch it to the extent of the coronation of the coronation oath, I would not propose to touch it to the extent of the coronation of parliament now was not the language of the declaration, it must be remembered that the enactment represented views of the period to represent the battle the dark the deported the bishops had to take. He did not appear the time the bishop

would be plunged into the engrossing oc-cupation of a general election. That ao-soubed pretty well the time, the attention which it would have been possible for me to give to any other subject, and from

ject up and, considering and examining it as it must necessarily be considered, weighed and examined if a bill was to

large expense, might become possessed by enquiry upon the spot, of the rea facts and the full extent of the greev

moment existing in these localities any grievances which the railway committee

itself could deal with and deal with

position of the government. My own personal desire, Mr. Speaker, is that we should grapple with the question, a quesfar as any improper railway interest is concerned. Railway interest, we must consider, but, improper, unreasonable railway interest we are not justified in

The Premier.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said: "I am sure there will be no dissenting voice when I say this is a question as to which there can be no party feeling. It is altogether beyond the scope of party controversy. It is not the intention of the government to make it a ministerial question. It is a matter which had better be left altogether to the judgment of every individual member to be acted on according vidual member to be acted on according to his conception of what is best for the country and empire. Personally, I favor the resolution, though if I had drafted it perhaps, I should have expressed the prayer in somewhat different language. But, even as it is, I favor the motion, and I have no doubt that if it were accepted unanimously by this house it would have a most beneficial effect for peace and I have no doubt that if it were accepted unanimously by this house it would have a most beneficial effect for peace and harmony of all creeds and races not only in this country but throughout the whole British empire. It may be asked why the resolution should be introduced here and it may be said it is not within our jurisdiction, not within our competence and that we have no power to effect it in one way or the other, as it is a the continuation of the content of t

Ottawa, March 1—(Special)—In the house of commons today Hon. John Costigan moved his resolution in regard to eliminating from the declaration to be made by his majesty the King, in connection with the coronation ceremonies, certain words which were offensive to Roman Catholics.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Costigan pointed out that he was discharging a conscientious duty and he trusted that parliament would receive his remarks in the spirit in which they were given. We were entering upon a new century and

complain of the coronation oath, I would not propose to touch it to the extent of crossing a 't' or dotting an 'i.' The coronation may remain intact. It provides ostrong but there were undoubtedly parts of the country where the country where the declaration represented still flourished and where the emotions is bound of that to maintain, the Protest and religion as established by law. What I am declaration beyond it. It is as useless as the fifth wheel of a coach. If any one will satisfy me that, in the flang one will satisfy me that, in the fartying out of this request, any injury is done or that we are impairing the strength of the crown, or interferring with the permanance of the succession to the crown as now arranged, I shall be willing to withdraw my resolution.

"But surely, when I appeal to the good sense of the house and ask them to take the same view of the matter as prominent Protestant writers and multiple ment and the production of the crown as now arranged, I shall be willing to writed and multiple ment protestant writers and multiple ment and the production of the crown as now arranged, I shall be willing to writed and multiple ment protestant writers and multiple ment protestant writers and multiple ment and the production of the control of the crown as now arranged, I shall be willing to writers and multiple ment protestant writers and multiple ment and the production of the crown as now arranged, I shall be willing to writer and production of the crown as now arranged, I shall be willing to writer and production of the crown as now arranged, the production was not as the first instance, he wished document and the first instance, he wished to congratulate the leader o his resolution, which has already been published.

Dr. Kendall, of Cape Broton, seconded the resolution and made a most favorable impression. He said: "I apprecate the distinction of seconding this resolution very much because I represent a constrution very much because the distinction of seconded the recovery much because I represent a constrution very much because I represent a constrution of secondary of the confession of faith or to the 3s and commentary on our Christianity. Roman Catholic where the distinction of secondary of the confession of faith or to the 3s on his sequent and not as king. He did not subscribe to both because the could not subscribe to the deal heard today on the growth of the first time in the most favorable that the subscribe of France revoked the edict of Nantes, which had given Protestants of France revoked the edict of Nantes, which had given Protestants of France revoked the very r

speech was well received by both sides.

Mr. Charlton followed. He supporte:

Mr. Clarke Wallace, after saying that

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Lowest possible prices consistent with high grade goods.

## T. McAVITY & SONS,

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"But surely, when I appeal to the good sense of the house and ask them to take the same view of the matter as prominent Protestant writers and public men, they will come to the conclusion that this declaration is entirely unnecessary."

old country and in parts of this country behind Mr. Borden. The sentiments which the leader of sense of the house and ask them to take the same view of the matter as prominent Protestant writers and public men, they will come to the conclusion that this declaration is entirely unnecessary."

Mr. Costigan then quoted from a speech delivered in the British parliament in 1867 by the Earl of Kimberley and from the Guardian, one of the most prominent protection as the conclusion of the opposition that the resolution would not have been adopted in vain. With regard to the legislation in question, which is now almost two centuries old, I have to say no more than has been said by Lord Salisbury. To say the least it is deplorable. Such legislation would not be plorable. Such legislation would not be plorable. Such legislation would not be eight that would prevent liberty of conscience. He believed, therefore, third there should be mothing in it that would prevent liberty of conscience. the Guardian, one of the most prominent plorable. Such legislation would not be listened to. It is repugnant to the spirit of this age. It is a remnant of those inunreasonable. He concluded by moving his resolution, which has already been disrupted and desolated Europe. It is any conference of the country. When the king subsculped to the confession of faith or to the 39 and commentary on any Christianity. Rearticles of the Church of England, he did

Mr. Haggart, who followed, said that he accepted the confession of faith and the shorter catechism in their entirety as they were well pounded into him in his youth, between his meals of porridge. (Laugh-

He came from one of the strongest Protestant denominations of the dominion, but was willing to remove any disabilities from any other denomination, atthough they were not of the same religious belief as shimself. He did not desire to see anything on the statute book affecting any man's judgment and conocience, or paniamentary procedure, which would not permit of any citizen of the empire subscribing to it. The church to which he belonged believed in the entire separation of church and state. The member for West York said that the Protestant denominations were all clustering around the smould dispense with the deduration and test such that the deduration of the control of this motion does not at all affect. Protestant succession or the surprise of the such that the deduration of the such that the deduction may be derived in the such that the deduction may be defined to the such that the deduction was a Roman Cathole, the control of the such that the deduction was a Roman Cathole, the control of the such that the desired that the such that the such that the desired that the such that the

Mr. Clarke Wallace, after saying that he regretted the antroduction of religious subjects in the house, proceeded to attack. Mr. Costigan who, he said, was booming himself to keep himself out of oblivion. He went on to say that the king had made the declaration to which objection was made could affect him. He then took up the confession of faith and read from it to show that Mr. Charlton was not in accord with the doctrines of his own.

ST. JOHN, N. B.

health.

Grippe is attacking the Digby families this week. In some places whole families are sick and places of business are closed. Rev. W. H. Evans, pastor of the Grace Methodist church, has been invited to remain at Digby another year. The invitation was received subject to the approval of the annual conference which will neet at Lunenburg in June.

By the upestting of a boat at Freeport

By the upestting of a boat at Freeport on Saturday Mr. Robert Perry had a nar-

eye" is prevalent. One or two cases are known in the last five days.

# Every Cold

He-"My uncle is a strange man." "He says the only thing he's got to live for is the hope that he'll have a large funeral."-Yonkers Statesman.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Bourassa, Ross (Victoria), Monk and Croups, Coughs and Colds are all quickly cured by Pyny-Balsam. It lessens the cough almost instantily, and cures readily the most obstinate cold. Manufactured by Pringle in favor of the motion. Messus. Blain and Northrup opposed it. Dr. Sproule spoke against and Lemieux

ference with Mr. Costigan and other members of the house an amendment to this motion had been agreed upon which might prove acceptable to the difference with Mr. Costigan and other members of the little girl run," we said to the mountaineer. "She fairly darts in and out." the premier announced that after a con-ference with Mr. Costigan and other mem-

might prove acceptable to the house. It was to strike out the last clause which asked for abolishing the declaration and substituting the following:

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ing us of the great benefits derived from the use of The D. & L. Menthol Plasters declaration referred to in the above mentioned act of settlement should be amended by eliminating therefrom all those expressions which are especially offensive to the religious belief of any subject of the