

NOTICE.

The SEMI-WEEKLY SUN will have a special correspondent at Ottawa during the session of Parliament.

The paper will be sent to any address in Canada or United States while the house is in session, for 25 CENTS.

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SUN PRINTING COMPANY.

ALFRED MARKEHAM.

Manager.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY SUN

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 9, 1901.

SIR MICHAEL AND SUGAR.

Much interest attaches to the budget speech which Sir Michael Hicks-Beach has in preparation. The imperial government is not given to the device of providing for a war expenditure by charging it to capital, as Mr. Fielding has done with our little contribution to the war in South Africa. The British taxpayer will be expected to settle the bill within the next two or three years, and to go on building new battle ships out of current expenditure at the same time. But no one is certain by what process the chancellor of the exchequer expects to get at the pockets of the people.

The income tax is already eightpence in the pound, or three and a third per cent. When a man pays his municipal or parish taxes and contributes one-thirtieth part of his income to the nation, besides paying a direct property tax to the local authorities and another to the government, he is disposed to think that the chancellor should levy some indirect taxes applying to the less opulent consuming class. The people who drink and those who smoke probably perform their duty as contributors to the British treasury, but their capacity to destroy and to pay is not equal to the present emergency. Tea is a great stand-by, but it cannot do everything. Whether then shall the chancellor of the exchequer turn to get a hundred million dollars in one year's taxation, after he has done his best with liquors, tobacco and tea, and with the usual direct taxes?

Britain is called a free trade country, and Sir Michael Hicks-Beach is not the minister who may be expected to depart from the traditions of more than half a century. Mr. Chamberlain and the Duke of Devonshire have been charged with protectionist heresies. Lord Salisbury has said that the British free trade policy is generous, but is not business. The plodding, commonplace, conservative gentleman who handles the imperial finances has not been a cause of wrath to the Cobden Club.

It is suggested that sugar may deal with sugar. This is a good article for a revenue tax, because, even more than tea, it goes into the mouth of the whole population. A duty of a penny per pound would give the government \$50,000,000 or more, even allowing for a falling off in consumption. The duty could be levied on raw and refined in such a way as not to be protective.

But it happens that while sugar is a good article for a revenue tax, there is a stronger agitation for protection for the sugar refining industry than for any other. European bounty fed sugar producers are driving the British refiners out of business. It is not long since England and Scotland were sugar refiners for the world. Now other countries do the refining for England and Scotland, whose once prosperous establishments are falling into decay.

Not to go back farther than 1888, when the alarm had already been sounded, we find that Great Britain imported 6,800,000 cwt. of refined sugar, and 17,857,000 cwt. of raw, or nearly three pounds of raw for one of refined. Mark the change in 1899, when the kingdom imported 17,808,000 cwt. of refined sugar and only 13,121,000 pounds of raw. This state of things is defended by some who maintain that if Germany can give England cheap refined sugar it is a benefit to the English people to have Germany do it. As a matter of fact the European producer and refiner is able to sell sugar in England because he is paid out of the treasury of his own country for doing so.

Not only does the importation of re-

finer sugar from the continent put the Scotch and English refiner out of business, but it destroys the market of the sugar grower in the British West Indies. Once the planter could sell raw sugar to England. Now he cannot sell to any country, and is suffering from a period of depression. The northern colonies of Australia grow sugar, but they also are shut out of the British market in the same way. It is possible in the existing circumstances for the imperial government to raise money for the war by a tax on sugar. This may be done without affecting the trade and the industry. It may be done in such a way as to restore the refining industry in Great Britain. Also it may be done in such a way as to give a preference to the colonial producer over the foreigner, not only in Europe but in South America and the East Indies. If Mr. Chamberlain were chancellor of the exchequer a sugar tariff on the last basis would not be surprising. As it is the government may feel that it has enough to fight without establishing strained relations with the free traders, and causing irritation in Germany and France.

THE NEW DIRECTOR.

The Geological Survey is one of the most important departments of the Canadian public service. It touches the interests of the whole country, giving more than value for the \$50,000 and upwards which it costs in salaries of the regular staff and \$60,000 of outlay for unclassified officers and for general expenses. Among the thirty officers of the survey, whose names are in the civil service list, and the number who, though continuously engaged, are classed as temporary officers, are some of the finest men in public employ in this country. There is no other department where so large a proportion of the men do their work because they like it, and perhaps the shabby headquarters of the survey is the only building at Ottawa where men work over-hours without extra pay. He who is appointed to the head of this splendid staff has reason to be proud of his position, and it is not surprising that Dr. Dawson remained there, even though he might have doubled his income in the service of a private company.

It is announced that Dr. Robert Bell has been appointed director in succession to Dr. Dawson. It remains to be seen how he will succeed as an administrator, but there is no question of his scientific qualifications. He has much more than a Canadian reputation as a geologist and explorer. Dr. Bell is in his sixtieth year. His first employment was in 1857, when he would be only sixteen years old, at which time he was assistant to Sir William Logan. Until 1883 he seems to have been irregularly connected with the survey, for he took a science course at McGill, studied at Edinburgh, was professor of chemistry at Kingston, studied and practiced medicine. Eighteen years ago, on the recommendation of the survey staff, he became one of the assistant directors. The other three assistants are Dr. Whiteaves, the paleontologist, Dr. Hoffmann, the chemist, and Professor Macoun, the botanist. Six years ago, when Dr. Selwyn retired from the directorship, Dr. Bell was supposed to be a candidate for the position. It had been understood that the relations between him and the previous director had not been the best, and it has been hinted that he has sometimes expressed want of confidence in Dr. Dawson.

On the retirement of Dr. Selwyn the salary of the director was reduced to \$6,000, the director still ranking as a deputy minister. Two of the associate directors receive \$2,400 and one \$2,350. Three geologists, Ellis, Fletcher and McConnell are down in the civil service list at \$2,100. Mr. Low, the Labrador explorer, leaves a salary of \$1,850 to get \$6,000 at Sydney. Another geologist remains at half the salary offered him in British Columbia. Recently an explorer resigned to take a position at three times his official pay, and Mr. Tyrrell is another who concluded that he could do better elsewhere. But the work and training is sufficiently attractive to draw to the survey a corps of splendid men, and if Dr. Bell's directorship shall stand the test as well as the service of the men under him he will be all right.

FOR THE SAKE OF CONCORD.

To read Mr. Tarte's Patrie one would suppose that the nineteen members of parliament who did not think it necessary for the house to take action on the subject of the King's coronation oath had committed some grave offence. La Patrie wants to know if Mr. Wallace, one of the nineteen, was not Sir Charles Tupper's first lieutenant, and whether Mr. Taylor is not the Tory whip, and whether Mr. Clarke is not the man whom some one had named as the Tory leader. The organ adds: "The vote proves that we have always claimed, that there is in the Tory party an element that is dangerous to public concord and a good understanding in the land."

Le Soleil goes further and gravely

publishes the following as a report of Mr. Clarke, Wallace's speech:

"As you would suppose, the speech of Clarke Wallace, first lieutenant in the conservative army, was a veritable onslaught of sectarianism. He took occasion to quote largely from that Protestant Gospel, the 'Confession of Faith.' Above all he tried to show that the Protestant religion was the only one that was 'any good, because it had for its chief our Lord Jesus Christ, while the Catholic religion recognized for its chief the anti-Christ, a man who 'was born in sin and who would go 'back to dust.' This report, wired from Ottawa to Sir Wilfrid's home organ, is wholly an invention, as Mr. Wallace did not even suggest a comparison of the Protestant and Roman Catholic faiths, or make the slightest reflection on the Pope. He opposed the resolution because it introduced into parliament a delicate question, with which the house had no call to interfere, and so far from expressing approval of the statement in the coronation oath, he condemned it. But the table serves the purpose of the ministers from Quebec if it makes the people in their own province believe that leading conservatives are in the habit of using such language as that contained in the lying report above quoted."

SENATOR MORGAN'S THREAT.

The Clayton-Bulwer treaty between Great Britain and the United States was a solemn engagement entered into between the two parties. Under this treaty Great Britain gave up certain territorial claims on the coast of Nicaragua, which interfered with the construction of the canal by the United States. The United States government agreed that the canal should be open to the world and that it should not be fortified. Yesterday a United States senator of great influence declared that the treaty must be abrogated. If England refused there would be a war and Britain would lose all her territory outside the one little island where the King lives. It is not suggested that the abrogation of the treaty would restore to Britain her territory on the coast of Central America. The idea that Britain should continue to pay off the price under threat of war comes appropriately enough from the Rothsay list, a state which repudiated his own bonds.

THE COAL AND RAILWAY BILL.

The provincial government railway and coal bill has large superficial promise in it, but the ministers do not seem to have information of a definite character to show that it is likely to be effective. It is safe to say that the people of the province will be willing to pay three per cent. on a line more than half the cost of a railway from Chipewyan to Fredericton, if it is made certain that as a result 150,000 tons of coal will be mined each year in the Grand Lake district. No great difficulty will be found in supplying the mechanical plant required to mine coal at one cent per day. The important equipment is the mine itself. If the measure is intended to contain a guarantee of effective operation, to the extent mentioned, it should provide that the subsidy would not be payable until underground workings opened up coal which was expected to produce 150,000 tons a year with the available machinery.

A SUCCESSFUL PLOT.

The Rothsay plot has been largely successful. It has made the election of an opponent of Dr. Pugsley impossible for this session. What the forgers of the plot had in mind was to compel the Duke of Manchester to resign. This measure provides for the making of a new Rothsay list, by a process which requires some weeks' time. The Globe points out that the attorney general might have legally the power to remove the Duke and caused the election to be held for the end of the session. "For reasons of their own," says the Globe, "the government determined on a different course, which can hardly be satisfactory to the electors of Kings county, to the people of the province, to it is suspected the 'reasons' are the same as those which led to the forgery of the list."

The government will pay the Berlin company \$7,242 for the Tobique bridge. At the lowest price paid under the former system, when materials were much cheaper, the price would have been \$12,495. The Lefebvre bridge, built a few years ago, cost \$15,502. At the rate of the last contract made, under much higher market prices, the cost would have been \$18,100. Ten bridges, for which the people paid \$53,815 when the market price was low, could be bought even at present advanced prices for \$31,000. The other \$22,000 was a little present to the favorites.

The St. John Globe is not impressed with Attorney General Pugsley's assurance that he is trying to catch the forgers. It says:

Much interest is felt in the course being pursued in regard to the bogus list. The attorney general has been taken to discover and bring to justice the guilty persons. The outrage committed is a crime against the public is not aware of any specific steps having been taken in regard to the crime.

Senator Ellis appears to share the doubt of the chief justice as to whether there are any officers of the law.

Mr. Blair is able to show that the earnings of the Intercolonial were \$613,740 more in 1900 than in 1899. The Sydney correspondent of the Halifax Chronicle says that "the cash remittances for the Cape Breton section of the I. C. R. amounted to \$150,695 in 1899 and \$330,800 in 1900. Yet the minister goes on, saying that his Drummond and Grand Trunk 'deal in the cause of the enlargement of the traffic.'"

New Zealand, with a population less than that of the maritime provinces,

sent 1,850 mounted men to South Africa before the end of last year. Of these 1,600 are still in Africa. In addition the colony has sent 630 men and horses this year, making 2,480 in all.

SOME LAWYERS' FEES.

Among the New Brunswick lawyers, whose names appear in the public accounts as having received pay from the provincial treasury are the following:

Harvey Atkinson of Moncton, \$120 for conducting prosecutions in Restigouche.

A. G. Blair, Jr., and Blair & Blair, of St. John, who were paid \$144 for St. John prosecutions.

Hon. H. A. McKeown, who is down for \$215.75 for criminal prosecutions in the St. John circuit court; \$112.95 in "Bouché Ats Philbert," whatever that means; \$121.60 for the Norton Clayton inquest; \$32 in the Hanson case, \$174 for the John Duncan inquest, and \$207.95 in the Amelia Norton inquiry, and \$120 for travelling expenses.

Attorney General Pugsley is down for his salary and travelling expenses, \$4,500 for "professional services in the Tobique Manufacturing Company case," \$500 for services at Ottawa in Eastern Extension claims.

Hon. A. S. White and his partners, of Sussex, received \$790.35 for unspecified professional services in addition to Mr. White's salary of \$450, etc., as attorney general for part of the year.

The sum of \$895 was paid for settling the succession duties. This has always gone to the attorney general, and doubtless it did last year, but his name is left out of the statement.

The Messenger and Visitor do not often discuss questions of federal fiscal policy, but it expresses the opinion that the removal of the duty on coal oil would command the approval of the great majority of the people of this country.

The dignity of the imperial parliament is not increased by the procession of six policemen carrying out the members of the Rothsay list, but that plan didn't seem to work.

Campaign Assistant Mr. Public Punisher, I dropped in to have a little talk over the Kings county prospects. He foretold the Rothsay list, but that plan didn't seem to work.

"P. P. My dear Sir, don't talk so loud; I might discover you." Star.

Attorney General Pugsley has finished another weary day of fruitless search for the forger of the Rothsay list. The rascal baffles him at every turn.

Tuesday's session of the wild disorder in the imperial parliament suggests the need of some kind of reform. How would it do for Mr. Costigan to propose another resolution, to cover the case?

A London newspaper man has been making investigation and finds that King Edward is less than five feet five inches in height.

Deputy has been captured, but he seems to have completed his invasion of Cape Colony.

Down to midnight yesterday Attorney General Pugsley had not discovered the forger of the Rothsay list. Dr. Pugsley is faint but pursuing.

BREACH OF PROMISE CASE.

Writ Issued at the Instance of a Miss Knight Against the Duke of Manchester.

LIVERPOOL, March 6.—On the arrival of the Duke of Manchester, the Duke of Manchester, who, with his bride, was a passenger on the ship, was served with a writ of breach of promise at the instance of Miss Knight of London.

The Duke of Manchester is an American, 22 or 24 years old. She was on the stage in New York for a short time and has been living lately in London. The writ has been issued at the instance of Miss Knight, who is now living in London. The writ has been issued at the instance of Miss Knight, who is now living in London.

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VOLUNTEERS.

For Baden-Powell's Constabulary Are Pledful.

A Party of Young Men Back from the States to Enlist—What the Men Will Have to Do.

(From Friday's Daily Sun.)

Lieut. McLean approved of the following additional applications for the South African Constabulary Tuesday: Albert Anderson, George T. Armstrong and Thomas Campbell, St. John; Charles G. Ehinney, Sackville; Biles G. Ellis, Fredericton; Warren Craig, Winkfield; Strang Mather, Jones Mather, Freeman Matheson, John Maloney, Allan McLean, McLean, Albert O'Donnell, Harry Reid, Watson J. Touch, Dixon, Dutton, E. J. Allingham, Melvin Larson, Newcastle; Harry Eagles, Hugh G. McNaughton, J. R. Munroe, Joubal A. Wadling, Thos. Gilmour, John M. Hart, Claude Lobban, Chatham; Donald McLean, Black Brook; John W. Smith, Bay Side.

Against yesterday morning's applications. He took the names of quite a number and referred them to the examining physician, Dr. Thos. Walker.

Among this morning's applicants were provincials from Boston and one true-born American.

The provincial young men were: Duncan B. Blaikie, of the New England Magazine Co., formerly of Nova Scotia. Mr. Blaikie served as a sergeant in the First Massachusetts Regiment in the Cuban war.

W. J. Currier, a native of Boston. D. G. Gould, of Chatham.

There were other applicants, including Merritt Lord, of west end, who was recently acquitted in the county court.

Lord interviewed the recruiting officer in company with his late counsel, J. B. M. Baxter.

The lieutenant said Lord would have to get a letter of recommendation from his Honor Judge Forbes, before he could pass.

Lord, who was at first rather dubious about going to South Africa is now quite enthusiastic in the idea, and will try his best to join the force.

On Friday the recruiting in earnest began. All the candidates will be paraded at the drill shed, further examined by the doctor and put to various other tests.

This will be the final revision, and although nearly three hundred applications have been made for enlistment, only one hundred of the best men will be selected.

In fact a request has come from one of the head recruiting officers that our St. John quota be cut down about thirty men, but it is doubtful if this can be done as the people down here have displayed so much enthusiasm in volunteering already.

Tuesday next, March 12th, is the day officially set for the mobilization at Halifax of the men enlisted at Moncton and points east. This, of course, includes St. John.

Untrained, steady temperate, medically fit, recommended by two responsible persons, aged between 20 and 35 years, not under 5 feet 6 inches in height, nor over 185 lbs. in weight, and have a chest measurement of not less than 34 inches.

Candidates will also be required to sign an agreement, and to take the oath of allegiance to the King. Their enlistment will not be final until it has been confirmed by Captain F. Fall, recruiting officer for Canada.

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the place of enlistment to the enlistment depot of the corps in South Africa, and do promise and undertake to obey the same."

The pay the men shall receive is graduated thus:

Staff Sergeant (per day)..... 2.43
Sergeant..... 2.19
2nd Class Sergeant..... 1.94
Corporal..... 1.82
1st Class Troopers..... 1.70
2nd Class Troopers..... 1.46
3rd Class Troopers..... 1.21

When travelling on duty outside district, the men will be allowed \$1.21 daily. Men can marry with consent of commanding officer, and will be then entitled to a further allowance of seventy-three cents a day.

Horses, forage, clothing, equipment, arms, quarters and medical attendance are supplied free.

Any candidate who is found unsuitable will be given free passage back to Canada.

Yesterday afternoon's list of applicants was as follows:

Chester McCloskey, Wentworth street, city; D. J. Gould, Chatham; P. Bryan Hennessey, city; Jos. Morgan, city; John Outram, city; Howard Wry, Sackville; O. W. Barnes, Sackville; Herbert Creighton, Silver Falls; Duncan B. Blaikie, Boston.

Also twelve from Woodville, from Moncton and some from Fredericton.

CLAIM AGAINST LIVERPOOL TIMBER MERCHANTS.

(Liverpool Journal of Commerce, Feb. 23.)
Mr. Justice Bicknell, sitting yesterday, before Mr. Justice Bicknell and a special jury, heard the case of the Liverpool Timber Merchants Association, Ltd., against the Liverpool Timber Merchants Association, Ltd., and the Liverpool Timber Merchants Association, Ltd.

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