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Semi-Weekly Telegraph  
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MR. WALLACE'S ADDRESS.  
A significant and somewhat shabby utterance, which will be variously received, is that of Mr. W. B. Wallace, retiring District Master of the Orange body in this city. It is printed in full in another column. It is not the intention to discuss at this time the wisdom of Mr. Wallace's views concerning what he conceives to be the relation of the Orange order to political matters. There can be no doubt that his remarks on this point will be read with interest in St. John and elsewhere. What the effect will be remains to be seen.

It is possible that the statements concerning the last local election made by Mr. Wallace will excite some controversy, in and out of the order. It would be interesting to know if the speaker had any particular candidate in mind when he said, referring to the next Dominion contest:—  
"The growing importance of this city, in fact the whole Dominion, requires statesmen of independent thought and action, with minds that reach beyond the dingy hall of impurity, to successfully handle public affairs, and it would be well if both political parties remembered this, as the placing of mere party voting machines in nomination just now might be considered an insult to the electorate and punished accordingly."

It may be assumed that none of the gentlemen mentioned on either side of politics as a possible representative regards himself as a mere party voting machine. Perhaps each will think "the other fellow" is meant and to none will be offered. The question which will be first asked by those who read Mr. Wallace's reference to the next federal election will be: Who is his candidate and did he know in advance that the retiring District Master would use this significant language concerning matters political? In any event it is likely that certain portions of Mr. Wallace's address will engage a considerable measure of public attention.

SOME OF THE CHANCES.  
"All the civilized world realizes that the underlying diplomatic fencing here is a far greater matter than the mere safeguarding of Russian interests in Korea or of Japanese interests in Manchuria. It is the universal recognition of this fact that makes the nations of the earth follow the struggle with breathless attention. All feel instinctively that Japan is but a super-ministry in the drama. All divine behind the scenes stands a far greater actor, stands the real protagonist, awaiting the right moment to step into the centre of the stage. No doubt exists as to the identity of that actor. It is England. The real issue, in fact, is not Shall Russia or Japan dominate Korea, but this one, Shall England or Russia rule supreme in the Far East?"

The foregoing is the introduction to a somewhat remarkable editorial in the Paris edition of the New York Herald reprinted in New York and followed by a warning to the United States government that it must beware of the dangerous sympathy with the British lest an American force be found pulling Britain's chestnuts out of the fire. The Herald insists that England has far more at stake than Japan. It ignores the fact that the United States could scarcely regard undisturbed the rise of Russia to the absolute domination of the Pacific where American interests are now of such importance. The Herald predicts war, and its reason is that Great Britain would be in no position to frustrate wholesale designs upon China if Russia were once firmly established in Korea, had complete control of Manchuria and had in her hands the lines of communication draining most of China.

The Herald says the recognition of Britain's helplessness under these conditions is responsible for what it calls the present "provocative tone" of the British press. "Either the quarrel is Japan's or it is England's," says the Herald. "If it is Japan's, she chooses to go to war to settle the matter, why should she not be 'crushed' if Russia is more powerful? The fact is, England has more, far more, at stake than Japan. Either the territorial expansion of Russia must be arrested definitely or England's aspiration after commercial supremacy in the Far East, must remain an unfulfilled dream. Under the guise of the Russo-Japanese dispute, in short, the lion and bear are preparing to grapple in a life or death struggle; and it is a dim perception of this that forces the world to follow the preliminary phases of the duel with such passionate interest."

In its hostility to Great Britain and its

anxiety that the United States shall take no part in the protest which civilization may make against Russian aggression and all that the success of such aggression would entail, the Herald, of course, overlooks the justice of Japan's position. There can be no doubt that Great Britain has vast interests at stake, but primarily the quarrel is Japan's because upon Japan first falls the evil of Russia's seizure of Manchuria in violation of all rights, precedents and promises. Russia is moving on to Korea. Were Russian influence in the ascendancy there, Japan's hope of expansion, now a vital question with the Island people, would be destroyed. Japan must and will fight to prevent any such result and it will not be strange if she elects to fight now instead of in the future when the already great odds will be hopelessly heavy.

The Herald's view of the case makes unpleasant reading. It remains for the Montreal Witness to conjure up the worst of war spectres—the possibility of German intervention in return for the possession of Shantung, "the most populous and strategically the most commanding province of China," in which case Great Britain would be forced to intervene. That would in turn, the Witness suggests, "mobilize the alliance of France with Russia and bring Britain with Japan and perhaps China into collision with the whole world except the United States. Everything would, in such a case, depend on the course of that power. If the United States was forced into it, it would have to be on the side of Great Britain and Japan, which alliance would be tremendously strong and a very hopeful omen for the world's future. Still the whole prospect so opened is so hideous that all Christians may well pray that it may be averted."

AN INTERESTING TEST.  
When many witnesses corroborate one another with great exactness the jury is apt to suspect collusion. It is often the perjurer whose story is smoothest and who contradicts himself not at all. Yet most men would tell you that if they were in a room where a violent affray occurred, heard the words leading up to the violence and saw the crime committed, they could give an absolutely correct account of the affair if summoned to court within a week or two of the event. Yet of a score of such witnesses but a small proportion would agree in regard to important details.

A curious and interesting test regarding the value of evidence has just been made by a professor in Berlin whose purpose it was to arrive at the worth of corroborative testimony. He arranged a quarrel between two of a class of twenty-five men. To twenty-three of the class the quarrel was to be real, since they were told nothing about the professor's plan. The two brawlers were to raise their voices suddenly, exchange some highly provocative language and then engage in an apparently vicious affray, one firing a pistol and the other using a walking stick. The mock quarrel took place and there was intense excitement among all present. The professor interfered and disarmed the participants. Then he informed the class that the row was a sham. He explained its purpose and asked them to keep the details in mind.

He reopened the subject a week later by calling each witness to his privy room and recording his testimony. The stories were then carefully compared. No two agreed as to the immediate cause of the row. Eight different names were given in answer to the question "Who started it?" though of course only two men were really engaged in the quarrel at first. As to the firing of the pistol there were many versions as to the stage of the row at which it was exploded. Eight varying versions of the professor's attempts to stop the quarrel were given. All the witnesses agreed as to the fact that the quarrel was a sham and that the professor's purpose was to test the value of corroborative testimony.

BYE-ELECTIONS.  
As the general elections are to be deferred until summer or autumn it is expected the bye-elections will be set down for an early date. The most important of these contests will take place in this city where a representative to succeed Mr. Blair will be chosen. The announcement of the date of the session followed as it no doubt will be by the issuing of writs for elections in the vacant constituencies, will set the political pot to boiling in serious earnest in St. John, and the organization of the opposing forces will be completed without delay. Already the Conservative organization has done the preliminary work of naming its ward delegates, a step which will be followed by selecting a convention day. The Liberals have made no move as yet but the news from Ottawa is likely to stir them to action before long.

Although there has been a great deal of gossip about candidates it is by no means certain who would be chosen by either party. It is generally realized that a convention of either party is likely to demand a candidate of proven ability and it is not unlikely that many ambitions will tumble when the actual work of selection is done, for those who are "willing

to run" are numerous and in some cases insistent. All in all the campaign should be one of unusual interest. It will be watched carefully from the other provinces as a test of party strength indicating how the government stands with the people in this section, and no doubt both organizations will wage political war with extraordinary vigor. Much will depend upon the ability or lack of ability of both parties to bring about complete harmony in their forces.

THAT TREATY.  
The Anglo-Japanese treaty of 1902, so frequently referred to since the sword bayonet to slip out of the scabbard in the Far East, binds Britain nearer to Japan in this matter than may be generally understood. While it is true that neither nation is pledged to interfere unless more than one Power is making war upon the other, the spirit of the treaty is to protect against Russian encroachment upon either China or Korea, and provides for speedy intervention in case those countries are disturbed from within or without.

The preamble to the agreement states that Great Britain and Japan are actuated chiefly by a desire to maintain the status quo and general peace in the Far East, and are, moreover, interested in preserving the independence and territorial integrity of China and Korea, and securing to those countries equal opportunities for the commerce and industry of all nations. Having in view this declaration, it may be seen that Russia must walk carefully or be challenged by one or both of the allies as having committed an overt act of hostility. The first article of the treaty recognizes the fact that Britain has special interests in China and Japan in Korea and that, therefore, "it will be inadvisable for either of them to take such measures as may be indispensable in order to safeguard those interests if threatened by the aggressive action of any other Power or by disturbances arising in China or Korea, and precluding the intervention of either of the high contracting parties for the protection of the lives and property of its subjects."

Great Britain, apparently then, stands ready to challenge Russia the moment her interests in China are threatened. That suggests many possibilities, among them the likelihood of disturbances in China following immediately upon the outbreak of hostilities between Japan and Russia, in which case the British might land in China an army of occupation, intended, primarily, to preserve order and defend her interests. It suggests also that unless the Russian operations were confined to Korea and a portion of Manchuria, the British might consider their rights menaced by Russia's aggression and act accordingly.

The second and third articles, which are most commonly quoted, provide for the friendly neutrality of either of the allies in case the other is engaged in war with a third Power, and for full cooperation in case one of the allies is attacked by a third Power. The fifth article provides that in circumstances like those now obtaining, Japan and Britain shall communicate fully and frankly. The British War Office, therefore, knows daily the exact position of affairs as far as Japan can inform it, and doubtless takes such measures as the news warrants. The treaty is to remain in force for five years from January, 1902, and it was made because the situation now existing in the Far East was expected to arise. That the settled purpose of both nations is to check Russia no matter what the cost is not to be doubted. That either would be left long to fight a losing war single-handed seems scarcely possible in view of the language of the treaty a part of which has been quoted. Yet so often from time to time in the past has Great Britain seemed on the verge of a great war, and so often have we seen the crisis pass without the burning of powder, there must still be strong hope that the long deferred and generally dreaded struggle in the Orient will not come to pass. Were the Motherland involved the Empire would be fired by a determination to support her, and the greater her need the greater that determination would be. But, while that is as it should be, the memory of the struggle in South Africa is fresh, and we recall too readily the days of anxiety here and the daily news of clamorous thousands in London's streets demanding the grim casualty list. As has been said frequently of late, English statesmen will go every step which is possible in honor to prevent a struggle of which no man could foretell the outcome.

KENNA'S CUNNING RETREAT.  
Fuller details concerning the defeat of the Mad Mullah's forces at Jiddah by the expeditionary force under General Egerton show that the British scouting force did admirable work in advance of the engagement, and that considerable cunning was used in bringing the main body of the dervishes to a stand.

The British force was regarded as powerful enough to dispose of the fanatics even if they proved to be 15,000 or 20,000 strong, as was reported. The expedition encamped at Badwin, about forty miles from Jiddah, in December last, from which point single native spies and small parties of horse went out, the former to report on the Mullah's strength and movements and the latter to seize the water-holes within striking distance. Lt. Col. Kenna made a reconnaissance toward Jiddah some weeks ago, with a mixed force of about 500 men. He found about 2,000 dervishes holding a position in a tract of bush about 200 yards square, in which there was a large water-hole. The enemy was drawn up for battle, but

after a skirmish Col. Kenna decided to withdraw, knowing that his force could not inflict the crushing blow which was the aim of the expedition under General Egerton. He knew that the main force of the Mullah had not arrived, and spies reported that the enemy was expecting reinforcements under the fanatic leader.

Col. Kenna retired, hoping by his course to permit the Mullah's forces to unite. The junction was effected, and, as he had expected, the British retreat inspired the dervish leaders with the conviction that they were strong enough to hold the water-hole against the full strength of the expedition. This was exactly what the British wished for, their principal anxiety being that the enemy would not await a general attack. When General Egerton moved upon the position with his entire force the dervishes were ready, and as has been previously noted their little army was soon broken and dispersed with considerable slaughter. The capture of Jiddah is important since it deprives the dervishes of their best available grazing ground and water supply, but the blow can scarcely be regarded as ending the campaign because the Mullah was not present in person, and not being discredited in the eyes of his followers by a personal defeat, may rally them elsewhere. But the campaign must be short now. And the destruction of Plunkett's little column early in the war has been paid for in kind.

THE CZAR'S LATEST.  
The Czar's assurance that he will use all the influence he possesses to prevent war over Korea is strangely at variance with the conduct of the ministers who are supposed to obey their nominal master, but who might well be supposed to take their orders from the shade of the most powerful of his predecessors. While the Czar is a very dove for peace, according to his own description of himself, and while it was he who proposed general disarmament, the world has not forgotten that since that proposal was made Finland has groined under intolerable tyranny and the Russians have been guilty of unbridled brutality in Manchuria where they made war their excuse. If the Czar could prevent these occurrences—as is generally believed—his fair words in the present crisis are worthless. If he could have prevented them and did not, his utterance of yesterday must be regarded as intended to gain time by preventing a clash until his preparations are complete. Japan is likely to adopt Mr. Kipling's view of the case, and make no trace with the Bear, regarding him as particularly dangerous when he makes peaceful professions. Certainly that was a curious meeting yesterday, when, in the presence of southern and diplomatic, the Russian Emperor greeted the Japanese minister, and, as the latter reported, "emphasized the high value which he places upon the good and neighborly relations between Japan and Russia, not only now, but in the future, and expressed his unshaken hope that a mutually satisfactory settlement of the difficulties between the two countries would be arranged."

The correspondent says the Mikado's minister was "profoundly impressed," but he does not define the nature of the impression.

THE CABINET CHANGES.  
Hon. Mr. Emmerson will be widely and heartily congratulated upon his appointment to the position of Minister of Railways and Canals, and at length it appears that congratulations are no longer premature, since it was definitely announced in Ottawa last evening that the member for Westmorland will take the oath of office at noon today, and that he succeeds to the portfolio which Mr. Blair resigned.

The county of Westmorland and the province generally will learn with pleasure and a measure of relief that this most important and influential office remains in New Brunswick. Doubt, too long undisturbed by default went up to the Premier's head, had been to grow, and there was some fear that New Brunswick would be asked to accept a cabinet position carrying less prestige than that accompanying the office Mr. Emmerson is to fill. Had that doubt been justified by the event, there can be no doubt that both Mr. Emmerson, and in a greater measure the province which he represents, would have just complaint. It is well that the vacant position has been filled. His duties and responsibilities are many and they were discharged long enough by another minister whose own department is far from being a sinecure.

The railway portfolio may demand unusual administrative ability hereafter. Much, of course, depends upon the future of the Grand Trunk Pacific project and the view which the people of Canada express concerning that project when they have an opportunity of passing upon it. The Premier had not decided last night whether an election or a session is to come first. In either event Mr. Emmerson takes up a double burden, all the more onerous because of the confusion due to Mr. Blair's retirement, for in addition to the Department of Railways and Canals the new minister has now succeeded to the leadership of the Liberal party in New Brunswick, and the direction of a machine which the removal of Mr. Blair has left in a condition that many Liberals are not inclined to regard as highly satisfactory. Under these circumstances, Hon. Mr. Emmerson's course during the next few months, especially about the elections, be postponed until summer, will command considerable public attention. Politically Mr. Emmerson's friends may feel that he

is at some disadvantage, stepping as he does, into the shoes of a man whose hand was very strong and whose opportunities for the effective organization of his party in this province were uncommon.

The retirement of Hon. Mr. Bernier, Minister of Inland Revenue, was fore-shadowed some time ago. Recently it was made known that Quebec Liberals were pressing strongly for strong representation on the railway commission, to which body the retiring minister will evidently be appointed. Mr. Bernier, who is now sixty-three years old, represents St. Hyacinthe. He entered public life in 1882, when he was elected for that riding, and has held the seat ever since. He became Minister of Inland Revenue in June, 1900.

Hon. Louis Philippe Brodeur, speaker of the House of Commons, who is to take down, as a younger and stronger man. He was first elected in 1891, for Bonville and was re-elected in 1896 and 1900. He became speaker in 1901. His father, Toussaint Brodeur, was a "patriot" in the rebellion of 1837. Mr. Bernier's wife's father, by the way, was a chief in that rebellion and was exiled to Bermuda.

When Sir Wilfrid Laurier asked for Mr. Brodeur's resignation and received it, Mr. Brodeur was mentioned as likely to succeed the Minister of Public Works. He had a strong following at that time, but it was understood that he was not willing to fight very strenuously for the office. Mr. Prefontaine wanted it, as did several others, and at last a compromise was effected whereby Mr. Sutherland accepted Mr. Tarte and Mr. Prefontaine succeeded the fisheries—with the understanding that his patronage would be more extensive than that of his predecessor. The elevation of Mr. Brodeur at this time is no doubt intended to strengthen the government in Quebec, in which province the Conservatives are predicting large gains for the opposition in the next contest—by no means unfamiliar anti-election prediction.

Mr. Rodolphe Lamoignon, who is mentioned in our despatches as likely to succeed Mr. Brodeur as speaker, is the member for Gaspé. He is the law partner of Hon. L. Gouin, Minister of Public Works of the province of Quebec, and was formerly the law partner of Hon. Mr. Mercer. He has been in the House since 1896. He is a son-in-law of Sir Louis Jetté.

THE VACANT SEATS.  
Should Hon. Mr. Emmerson take office in the government today eight seats will be vacant, including Westmorland. The conditions in St. John and Westmorland are known. Blair is a list showing how the battle went in 1900 in the other constituencies which are now vacant:—

Brace, East—	1,906
Cargill, Con—	1,763
Cummings, Lab—	1,763
Hocheba, Lab—	4,083
Madore, Lab—	3,483
Lachapelle, Con—	635
Lambton, East—	2,837
Simmons, Con—	2,416
Freder, Lab—	221
Montmagny—	1,186
Martineau, Lab—	973
Bernier, Con—	713
Queens, West (P.R.I.), bye-election 1902—	2,108
Farquharson, Lab—	1,638
McLean, Con—	475

In St. James division, Montreal, Mr. Joseph Brunet, who was unseated, had a majority of 947 over Mr. G. H. Bergeron. Mr. Cargill, Mr. Martineau, Mr. Simmons and Mr. Farquharson are dead. Mr. Madore was elevated to the bench. There are three Senate vacancies—one each in Nova Scotia, Ontario and Quebec.

All of the Telegraph's recent Ottawa advices have pointed strongly to another session before the election, and that programme still appears the most likely one, in spite of a Toronto report that the elections have been set down for May and that a session in June would follow.

NOTE AND COMMENT.  
By-elections in eight constituencies may be expected next. Who is to succeed Mr. Blair?

The war news has worked a needed reform in Great Britain. Last year the craze in London was ping-pong; now it is wrestling. The latter sport is not a daily one but it has masculine virtues.

Fighting is now going on in Europe, South America and Africa and is threatened in Asia and the Isthmus of Panama. But when it comes the struggle in the Far East will cause all the other operations to be forgotten.

The Transportation Commissioners appear to have told the people of St. Andrews that they have a fine port, and that it would be greatly improved if they could contrive to have the railways decorate it with some business.

The Railroad Gazette estimates that the next transcontinental railroad will require, at the outset, 10,000,000 ties which, at present rates, would cost \$3,000,000. There's a pretty contract for someone—after the railroad question is straightened out.

Possibly New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island may form one state and Nova Scotia another—the Chicago Tribune hasn't quite settled it. It may decide to include all three in a single state. Ontario is to be a state. So is British Columbia. The Territories must wait. The

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\$4.50 SUITS		\$6.00 SUITS	
\$9.00 SUITS	Now \$5.95	\$12.00 SUITS	Now \$6.95
\$8.50 SUITS		\$10.00 SUITS	
\$8.75 SUITS		\$9.50 SUITS	

Boys' Suits Cut accordingly.

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## BIG HOTEL PROPOSED FOR HALIFAX, N. S.

Company to Seek Incorporation With \$250,000 Capital—Roman Catholic Bishops in Conference.

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 14.—(Special)—Application will be made at the present session of the provincial parliament for an act to incorporate a company to build and operate a hotel on the old drill shed site, Spring Garden road. The site was secured some time ago. It is understood the capital will be \$250,000.

There is a meeting of the bishops of the Roman Catholic archdiocese of Halifax here this afternoon. Bishop Barry, of Baltimore, arrived last evening, and Bishop Cameron, of Antigonish, and Bishop McDonald, of P. E. Island, arrived this morning.

The object of the meeting or conference with the Archbishop of Halifax is understood to be for the consideration of general matters pertaining to the archdiocese.

## TERRIBLE STORY ABOUT STARVING INDIANS

It is Reported That a Father Killed His Daughter and the Family Ate Her Body.

Port Arthur, Ont., Jan. 14.—(Special)—An Indian who arrived from Nipigon yesterday afternoon brought terrible tales of suffering among the Indians in the north of Nipigon Lake. He stated that one Indian was so hard pressed that he killed one of his girls who was about twenty-two years old, and the family ate the body.

The story is corroborated by several white traders who arrived later in the afternoon. A relief train of dogs was started for the scene and two constables have left to investigate.

It has been known for some time that the Indians were in a bad way but was not supposed that such destitution existed. It will take relief trains four days to reach the place.

A. W. Patterson, of the Hudsons Bay Company at Nipigon Lake, who is town, says he has not heard the story, and could scarcely credit it.

## SHE WEDDED SEVEN MEN.

And Her Mother Married the Father of Her First Husband.

London, Jan. 14.—Florence Redhead, aged twenty-nine, the central figure of seven marriage ceremonies and consequent bigamy charges, divinely puzzled a London magistrate while he was trying to follow the confused relationship of the party concerned. Three of Florence's marriages and one of her mother's will suffice to indicate the complications.

Prior to 1897 Florence married Mr. Red, who divorced her, and before divorce was made absolute she married co-respondent, Mr. Foster, who, on her part from the South African war found her married to Mr. Barr of the law. She stated that she had married bigamy, as both marriages were because Mr. Redhead was living with her and had not become absolute.

The complications were: Florence's mother, who, this head was dead, married him when Redhead reappeared. He found that his father was law, and his mother-in-law, and his wife his wife. The magistrate believed when he heard that remarried, Florence was charge of bigamy.

## POLITICAL NOTES.

Ald. Snowball will start for England next Monday. This means that he does not expect to be the Liberal candidate for parliament at the coming election, or else that Sir Wilfrid has informed him that the election is not to be held this winter.

Hon. C. H. Mackintosh, ex-governor of the Northwest Territories and at one time prominent in Ontario public life, has been nominated as the Conservative candidate for the Kootenay district in British Columbia. Mr. Mackintosh is a clever writer, having been editor-in-chief of the Ottawa Citizen for many years. He was mayor of Ottawa for three years and represented that city in the house of commons for two terms. Since the expiry of his term as governor of the territories, Mr. Mackintosh has made his home in British Columbia, where he has been engaged in mining and other business.

To Boom New T. There has just been an election in the old county of Newbury Colony for men and is from one of the prominent citizens, W. Reed-Le. It is a thirty-two page pamphlet by Jas. Byrne (Raggs) (Mch.), on whom the province from photos of water and his son, Fred. Chestnut, H. F. Albright and son, and sets forth the advantages of emigration, who have some are not afraid to work, come Brunswick to settle. The whole is great credit to the writer, Mr. Reed.