

# POOR DOCUMENT

## MAY 20 1934

ST JOHN STAR, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1905

### A War For a Dukedom.

Our Man Claims One of England's Highest Titles and an Estate Worth \$500,000,000.

Duke claim to the estate and the Duke of Portland, one of the extraordinary mysteries of times, is now rapidly nearing stage, when the public hearing claimant's case will come before the court.

In the next few weeks an appeal will be made for taking evidence on commission, and the preliminary stages will follow in succession, and then it is anticipated that this extraordinary case will definitely and once for all settle the matter.

The story is so strange that it is almost incredible that it is true. It is a tale of intrigue, of passion, of greed, and of the most extraordinary of events. It is a tale of the Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon. The Duke of Portland, one of the most powerful and influential men in England, and of his claim to the dukedom of Devon.

abundantly testified, and this same case was possessed by Thomas Charles Druce. These peculiarities might be continued indefinitely, but after all, they prove nothing, though taken in conjunction with the alleged marvellous resemblance of the two personalities they are, to say the least of them, peculiar.

The case itself has certainly brought into prominence the eccentric life and habits of the fifth Duke of Portland, and he will always be remembered as an example of the eccentricities of which human nature is capable, while Welbeck Abbey, one of the finest of the stately homes of England, will forever stand as a monument to the curious character and mysterious life of its noble aborigine.

DUKE'S ECCENTRICITIES.

For eighteen years he converted Welbeck into a huge workshop, and during the whole of that time he employed seventeen or eighteen hundred men in the construction of the famous statue, ten gallop, riding school, underground picture gallery and apartments, besides the colossal subterranean kennels which honeycombed Welbeck like a rabbit warren. The bill of costs exceeded \$500,000 a day, and from the beginning to the end he spent about \$3,000,000 on the improvements.

Wonderful as is Welbeck, however, its owner and architect was even more extraordinary, for though he transformed the abbey into a veritable fairy palace he kept no company, but lived alone in a room of three plain furnished rooms. He used to wander about the demure, and he was never known to start a conversation, and the story is told that he one day saw from the window of Welbeck a posher "dickling trout" in the lake before the house. Waylaying him, the duke asked what he had in his basket. "Only water-cress, your grace," he replied.

"Let me look at it," said the duke, and in spite of his protest he took the open his basket, disclosing a number of trout. "Come along with me," said the duke, and the poacher followed him to his study. Sitting down at his desk the duke wrote a check for \$100 (\$500).

"You're a clever man," he said. "I could not catch fish like that." Another story is told of the duke illustrating his impatience of anything ugly and yet at the same time his love for the beautiful. One day he was in an architect employed by him at one time built a gateway which when completed became a masterpiece of architecture. He was so much pleased with it that he would not remonstrate with him. He took another course. One evening after the architect had driven off he had his own man at work at double the ordinary rate of pay, and by sunrise not a vestige of the hated edifice remained.

On arriving in the course of the morning the architect looked in vain for the gateway, but neither he nor he Duke ever took the slightest notice of its disappearance. Another eccentricity of the late duke was the way in which he used to travel to London, and it was perhaps on account of this that he was known to have suffered from a very acute skin disease, and curiously enough this same disease manifested itself in the family of the duke, his father having suffered from it, as also his children, though he has been free from it, though this may be accounted for by the fact that hereditary diseases frequently skip a generation.

Another coincidence is that the fifth Duke of Portland had a marked aversion to meeting strangers, in fact he would never see any one, not even his lawyers, and Druce would not see any person who called on a business at the Baker street bazaar. Again, while the list of coincidences do not prove anything, they are, to say the least of it, extraordinary, as for instance, the fifth Duke had a peculiarity of dying his trousers below the knee with strine, as the railway navvies do in England, and this was also a peculiarity of Thomas Charles Druce.

Again, the duke had a craze for tunnelling operations, as Welbeck Abbey

abundantly testified, and this same case was possessed by Thomas Charles Druce. These peculiarities might be continued indefinitely, but after all, they prove nothing, though taken in conjunction with the alleged marvellous resemblance of the two personalities they are, to say the least of them, peculiar.

The case itself has certainly brought into prominence the eccentric life and habits of the fifth Duke of Portland, and he will always be remembered as an example of the eccentricities of which human nature is capable, while Welbeck Abbey, one of the finest of the stately homes of England, will forever stand as a monument to the curious character and mysterious life of its noble aborigine.

DUKE'S ECCENTRICITIES.

For eighteen years he converted Welbeck into a huge workshop, and during the whole of that time he employed seventeen or eighteen hundred men in the construction of the famous statue, ten gallop, riding school, underground picture gallery and apartments, besides the colossal subterranean kennels which honeycombed Welbeck like a rabbit warren. The bill of costs exceeded \$500,000 a day, and from the beginning to the end he spent about \$3,000,000 on the improvements.

Wonderful as is Welbeck, however, its owner and architect was even more extraordinary, for though he transformed the abbey into a veritable fairy palace he kept no company, but lived alone in a room of three plain furnished rooms. He used to wander about the demure, and he was never known to start a conversation, and the story is told that he one day saw from the window of Welbeck a posher "dickling trout" in the lake before the house. Waylaying him, the duke asked what he had in his basket. "Only water-cress, your grace," he replied.

"Let me look at it," said the duke, and in spite of his protest he took the open his basket, disclosing a number of trout. "Come along with me," said the duke, and the poacher followed him to his study. Sitting down at his desk the duke wrote a check for \$100 (\$500).

"You're a clever man," he said. "I could not catch fish like that." Another story is told of the duke illustrating his impatience of anything ugly and yet at the same time his love for the beautiful. One day he was in an architect employed by him at one time built a gateway which when completed became a masterpiece of architecture. He was so much pleased with it that he would not remonstrate with him. He took another course. One evening after the architect had driven off he had his own man at work at double the ordinary rate of pay, and by sunrise not a vestige of the hated edifice remained.

On arriving in the course of the morning the architect looked in vain for the gateway, but neither he nor he Duke ever took the slightest notice of its disappearance. Another eccentricity of the late duke was the way in which he used to travel to London, and it was perhaps on account of this that he was known to have suffered from a very acute skin disease, and curiously enough this same disease manifested itself in the family of the duke, his father having suffered from it, as also his children, though he has been free from it, though this may be accounted for by the fact that hereditary diseases frequently skip a generation.

Another coincidence is that the fifth Duke of Portland had a marked aversion to meeting strangers, in fact he would never see any one, not even his lawyers, and Druce would not see any person who called on a business at the Baker street bazaar. Again, while the list of coincidences do not prove anything, they are, to say the least of it, extraordinary, as for instance, the fifth Duke had a peculiarity of dying his trousers below the knee with strine, as the railway navvies do in England, and this was also a peculiarity of Thomas Charles Druce.

Again, the duke had a craze for tunnelling operations, as Welbeck Abbey

### DISTRICT SYSTEM

Citizens' League Delegates at City Hall

A committee of three, W. H. Thomas, W. F. Chapman and Jas. McKinnier, Jr., from the Citizens' League, appeared before a sub-committee of the Council yesterday and explained the opinions of the league as to a change in the electoral system of the city. All three gentlemen spoke and went over the same ground that was gone over in the league meeting when the plan was adopted. In brief, the two principal points are: 1. To divide the city into six districts, giving two aldermen to each district, and having three at large from the whole city. 2. To make qualification universal.

They drew parallels from provincial and federal elections to show the advantages of the proposed system, and instanced several cities where the plan was working successfully. The aldermen present were Ald. Baxter (chairman), Ald. Tilley, Frink, MacRae, McGoldrick.

Ald. McGoldrick did not think much of the league's proposal to require candidates to reside or do business in the district they are nominated for. Ald. Baxter agreed with this, but wanted qualifications not so open. A list of 20 names should be appended to a candidate's nomination.

Ald. MacRae would like to have a deposit of \$50 or \$100 made by each candidate, and that this be forfeited where the candidate secures less than one-half of the votes of the lowest successful candidate.

Ald. McKinnier said that under the old ward system a property qualification of \$1,000 real or personal was required, and the same applies to candidates for council positions. Ald. Tilley suggested that one alderman be elected from each ward, and that five aldermen at large be added. The delegation explained that they were approaching the Council early so that some move could be made to change the act before the next election.

It was pointed out that by the time the government got around to this the act would be very close to April. One alderman spoke of the antagonism in the city to the scheme when in vogue ten years ago. Ald. Baxter said a great deal of that and the peace in the city in these days were then considered very unusual. He said that the scheme was in a new, unfinished condition, and their representatives tried to get the city to accept the plan.

Ald. McGoldrick expressed himself as convinced that the plan was a good one, and that the people would favor the ward in preference to the district system. He said that the plan was a good one, and that the people would favor the ward in preference to the district system.

The idea of a civic commission, which would appoint about five men at \$2,000 a year, to administer the city's affairs. Ald. Baxter would like to see equal representation of the city, and one man going out each year. Ald. MacRae said at Halifax that the city would be a great deal better off if it had a civic commission.

Ald. Tilley said a ward in Carleton has more sidewalks to look after than the city. Ald. MacRae said "They are the best in the city." Ald. McKinnier said a reconstruction of the city line would have to be made to have equal divisions in each ward. The city was finally decided that the committee should meet again next Friday evening to further discuss the matter.

### BREAD MAKING.

A Free School of Cookery to be Opened in St. John Next Tuesday.

St. John ladies who wish to learn the five-hour course of bread making, and to observe how bread and pastry cooking is done by the most approved methods, will have a splendid opportunity free of charge. The school will be held in the Church of England Institute rooms, German street, on Tuesday next, will be opened a free cooking school for this purpose, in charge of Miss Milligan and Miss Brown, both of the Toronto School of Cookery, and the former a Gold Medalist.

They opened a school in Sussex on Dec. 6th, and were compelled to remain longer than the ten days allotted for that town, because of the great rush of ladies, some travelling sixteen miles to take lessons. The school there was held in the Medley Memorial Hall. This school of cooking has been sent out by the bread making department of the Ogilvie Flour Mills Co., Ltd., to familiarize the people with the process of making bread and pastry from their Royal Household flour, and no charge whatever is made for the instructions given. In Sussex there were two tables each, making room for six ladies, so that a dozen could at the same time be making experiments in cooking under the supervision of Miss Milligan and Miss Brown. There will be as much or more accommodation here.

Mr. S. Harding, maritime manager for the Ogilvie Flour Mills Co., Ltd., said that when the ladies have learned the five-hour process of bread making, they will be able to go back to the old method of setting the bread to rise over night. He points out that, though the process is simple, it is not so simple as it seems, and that the ladies who have learned the five-hour process will be able to go back to the old method of setting the bread to rise over night.

Several students planned a mimic holdup of a friend, expecting him to pass a certain point where they lay in wait. The student, however, was not taken in, and the mimic holdup was a failure. The student, however, was not taken in, and the mimic holdup was a failure.

### DR. SIMPSON HELD ON MURDER CHARGE

Shot and Killed His Father-in-Law

NORTHPORT, R. I., Dec. 29.—At the inquest held here today over the body of Bartley T. Horner, who was shot and killed by his son-in-law, J. W. Simpson, a New York dentist, Dr. Simpson was held on a charge of murder by Coroner William D. Gibson, and taken at once to the prison at River Head, there to await the action of the grand jury.

Mr. Horner was for years the southern representative of the Lorillard tobacco firm, and was worth about \$100,000. At the inquest Mrs. Horner, the widow, was the most important witness.

"Dr. Simpson," she declared, "said in my hearing at the supper table Wednesday evening the night of the shooting, that he wished the 'old man,' meaning my husband, was dead."

"He said this after the subject of my husband's will had been broached. 'A few months ago my husband made up his mind to have his will changed. He was worth about \$100,000 I should say.'"

"He visited a lawyer and arranged to have his will changed. He said at the time that he wanted it fixed so that the fortune would not be squandered by his son-in-law, J. W. Simpson, and that he wished the 'old man,' meaning my husband, was dead."

"He said this after the subject of my husband's will had been broached. 'A few months ago my husband made up his mind to have his will changed. He was worth about \$100,000 I should say.'"

"He visited a lawyer and arranged to have his will changed. He said at the time that he wanted it fixed so that the fortune would not be squandered by his son-in-law, J. W. Simpson, and that he wished the 'old man,' meaning my husband, was dead."

"He said this after the subject of my husband's will had been broached. 'A few months ago my husband made up his mind to have his will changed. He was worth about \$100,000 I should say.'"

"He visited a lawyer and arranged to have his will changed. He said at the time that he wanted it fixed so that the fortune would not be squandered by his son-in-law, J. W. Simpson, and that he wished the 'old man,' meaning my husband, was dead."

"He said this after the subject of my husband's will had been broached. 'A few months ago my husband made up his mind to have his will changed. He was worth about \$100,000 I should say.'"

"He visited a lawyer and arranged to have his will changed. He said at the time that he wanted it fixed so that the fortune would not be squandered by his son-in-law, J. W. Simpson, and that he wished the 'old man,' meaning my husband, was dead."

"He said this after the subject of my husband's will had been broached. 'A few months ago my husband made up his mind to have his will changed. He was worth about \$100,000 I should say.'"

"He visited a lawyer and arranged to have his will changed. He said at the time that he wanted it fixed so that the fortune would not be squandered by his son-in-law, J. W. Simpson, and that he wished the 'old man,' meaning my husband, was dead."

### THIRTY PEOPLE WERE KILLED ON THE I. C. R. THIS YEAR.

At least thirty persons lost their lives by accident on the Intercolonial railway during 1905. No passenger was killed in a train accident, and the majority of those losing their lives were neither passengers nor trainmen. The record is as follows:

January 5—William Hackey, sectionman of Bathurst, N. B., struck by locomotive in Newmarket yard, skull crushed. Widow and five children. January 16—Amos Lirette, laborer in shops at Moncton, run down and killed by shunting engine while walking on the track to his work.

January 29—Edward McLellan, snow shoveller, run down by train and fatally injured. February 4—John Neely, an ex-soldier, killed on the track near London, N. S. He was engaged peddling through the country and is supposed to have been walking on the track when struck.

February 11—James Black, instantly killed by falling off a snow train at Campbellton. Three cars passed over his body. Left a wife and three small children. February 21—Gordon Somers, a fireman, killed at Tracadie, N. S., by a snow plow and locomotive going off the track.

March 13—Brakeman Percy Ferguson of Harrold, N. S., killed while shunting cars at Chatham Junction. His leg was crushed and he died of the shock. March 16—John Murphy, a snow shoveller, aged 19, ground to pieces while attempting to board a locomotive in the yard at Richmond, Halifax. March 19—Brakeman Sydney McEachern, killed in the Richmond yard, thrown under a car by a sudden jolt while shunting.

April 4—Phileas Belliveau, a workman in the Rhode Curry factory, jammed to death while attempting to pass between cars that were being shunted in Amherst yard. April 12—Chester Boomer, caught between cars while shunting at Hilden, N. S.; badly crushed in back and died within a few hours.

April 23—John Pyne, a sailor, found dead on the track near Dorchester. He had been drinking and it is supposed fell asleep on the track and was run over. April 28—Two-year-old child of Emily Roy, while lying on the track at Haddow, Quebec, run over by a shunting engine and crushed to death.

May 26—Blanchet, a mendi-spector run over by locomotive at Moncton yard, both legs cut off and other injuries, resulting fatally. Aged 28, leaving widow and five children. May 31—Fred Hicks, brakeman, struck by train on the Windsor branch and killed.

Dec. 8—James Taylor, carpenter, crushed to death while doing some work on a car at Truro station, the engine signal was not up and a shunter struck the car, starting it suddenly, catching Taylor under the wheels, cutting his body in two. He leaves a widow and six children.

Dec. 14—David S. Melanson, car inspector run over by locomotive at Moncton yard, both legs cut off and other injuries, resulting fatally. Aged 28, leaving widow and five children. May 31—Fred Hicks, brakeman, struck by train on the Windsor branch and killed.

Dec. 8—James Taylor, carpenter, crushed to death while doing some work on a car at Truro station, the engine signal was not up and a shunter struck the car, starting it suddenly, catching Taylor under the wheels, cutting his body in two. He leaves a widow and six children.

Dec. 14—David S. Melanson, car inspector run over by locomotive at Moncton yard, both legs cut off and other injuries, resulting fatally. Aged 28, leaving widow and five children. May 31—Fred Hicks, brakeman, struck by train on the Windsor branch and killed.

Dec. 8—James Taylor, carpenter, crushed to death while doing some work on a car at Truro station, the engine signal was not up and a shunter struck the car, starting it suddenly, catching Taylor under the wheels, cutting his body in two. He leaves a widow and six children.

Dec. 14—David S. Melanson, car inspector run over by locomotive at Moncton yard, both legs cut off and other injuries, resulting fatally. Aged 28, leaving widow and five children. May 31—Fred Hicks, brakeman, struck by train on the Windsor branch and killed.

Dec. 8—James Taylor, carpenter, crushed to death while doing some work on a car at Truro station, the engine signal was not up and a shunter struck the car, starting it suddenly, catching Taylor under the wheels, cutting his body in two. He leaves a widow and six children.

### Short Talks on Printing

In looking over the advertising pages of the leading magazines one invariably runs across a sentence something like this: "Illustrated booklet sent on request." "Catalogue Free," or "Send for Booklet."

How many manufacturing industries, business houses, or business institutions in St. John follow up their advertising in this manner? Very few, and it's the few that are reaping the harvest.

Think this over, and if it interests you, call us up on Phone 25, and we will call on you with samples of Catalogues and Booklets we have printed—which have proved profitable business-bringing investments.

THE SUN PRINTING CO., LTD., CANTERBURY STREET.

### BOSTON BROKERAGE FIRM HAS FAILED.

Assignment Yesterday of H. R. Leigh & Co., Who Have a Branch Office in Halifax.

BOSTON, Dec. 29.—The recent boom in copper stocks on the Boston stock exchange, when prices went up in bounds, was an important contributing factor to the suspension today of the stock brokerage firm of H. R. Leigh & Co., which assigned for the benefit of its creditors. Although the firm was not a member of any stock exchange, the assignment was adjudged of considerable importance from the fact that the firm has some forty branch offices, all but three of them in New England cities and towns. The outside offices are at Montreal, Halifax, N. S., and St. John, N.B. The assignee is Chase E. Allen, a lawyer of the city. In a statement the firm declared that the suspension was due to the failure of the firm to meet its obligations to the company and to outstanding investors. The firm should make a great extent—upon which necessary money could not be realized.

Almost all the larger cities of New England are affected by the suspension, the firm operating branch offices in Vermont where were agencies of the firm in Montpelier, Woodstock, Bennington, Brattleboro, Bellows Falls and St. Johnsbury. There are several hundred creditors scattered throughout New England and Canada.

Assigned Allen said this afternoon that he hoped to have the affairs of the company straightened out soon and that to continue the business as formerly.

The firm is a West Virginia corporation, organized in 1902 with a capital of \$200,000. G. L. Babcock is president, and H. R. Leigh, secretary and treasurer. In this city the firm occupied two floors of the building at 248 Washington street. The failure had no effect of any kind upon the stock market. The losses are distributed among individual investors, most of them living outside of Boston.

No official statement of liabilities and assets of the firm was issued today, but it is thought that the liabilities amount to about half a million dollars.

RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS. This year the Rhodes scholars from Canada must be selected in January. The New Brunswick choice belongs to the U. N. B. Dalhousie has the nomination. The Ontario choice is the Prince Edward Island scholars are chosen by a committee. McGill has the Quebec selection. It is understood that one of the Prince Edward Island applicants is a Mt. Allison student.

The U. N. B. candidates include: Ralph Freeze, 1903, Sussex; Robert Colwell, 1904, Fredericton; William Pugsley, 1905, St. John; Herman McLachlan, 1904, Fredericton; H. Woods of the class of 1905, Welsford.

### TARIFF COMMISSION

COMING JANUARY 8.

Dates Fixed for Its Sessions Throughout the Province—First Session at Newcastle, January 3rd.

Telegrams received by different officials in the city last evening from John Bain, secretary to the tariff commission, contained information that sessions would be held by the commission as follows: Newcastle, Wednesday, Jan. 3rd; Fredericton, Thursday, Jan. 4th; St. Stephen, Friday, Jan. 5th; St. John, Monday, Jan. 8th. Moncton, date not settled, but probably Tuesday, Jan. 9th.

The meetings in St. John will be held in the Board of Trade rooms. As yet the program of the sessions here is very indefinite. A standing committee of the Board of Trade on tariff matters has been called together several times, and it was decided that the importers or manufacturers in each line should make up their own case for presentation. There will likely be any statement from the board as a whole. It is not probable that the session will be an eventful one.

So far as is known, only two associations have met to discuss matters. The grocers have met and a meeting in November and decided that they were to change in the tariff on imports of German goods and English cloth which do not in any way compete with Canadian manufactures.

The hardware importers' association met yesterday and discussed questions of interest. No changes in the tariff will be asked for, but the association will have something to say on the working of the dumping clause and other points. The report to be presented is now being prepared.

### AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

The Mysterious Mr. Raffles proved the title and it took the full four acts to subdue his villainy as presented at the Opera House last evening by the Waite Comedy Co. The bill is a good one and teems with sensational elements and plenty of comedy. William Wagner made an excellent detective and assumed many disguises before he caught the villain pair, Raffles and Watson, portrayed by Messrs. Hobd and Duncan. Miss Dornier made a most capable heroine and did some clever work. The comedy was furnished by Cas. Elliott as the "coon," and Frederick Huxtable in a stuttering due role. When the house was not sitting up in excitement over the stirring situations, these comedians kept them in a state of merriment.

Walter Woodall and Pearl Lytle, both in comedy roles, added materially to the fun. The minor changes were all well taken. The bill will be repeated again tonight. At the matinee this afternoon a struggle for Liberty will be presented.

On Monday afternoon at the special New Year's matinee James R. Waite will be seen in the great comedy hit, Other People's Money. In the evening the stock company will present A Man of Mystery.