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 ST. JOHN, N. B., NOVEMBER 12, 1904.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Walk softly but carry a big stick and you will go far," is one of the maxims of Theodore Roosevelt who by accident first became president of the United States and who, Tuesday, was elected to that high office by a popular majority of amazing proportions. Mr. Roosevelt has carried a big stick and, save during the recent campaign, he has not walked softly. But while his tread has been somewhat heavy his official walk, with some few conspicuous exceptions, has been upright, and there is much reason to believe that a high sense of responsibility has sobered a disposition inclined toward a dangerous impulsiveness. Honest and courageous as politicians go, picturesque and forceful, this man of forty-six has won for himself a popular support unequalled since the Civil War. Friends here said of him that he has been in training for the presidency since he was twenty-one. He was in politics as soon as he could vote. A Harvard graduate of parts, a sound student improving great natural gifts, a tireless worker, a keen sportsman, the young man went to the New York State Assembly, then in turn to the Civil Service Commission at Washington, and to the chairmanship of the New York Police Commission. One of his early flights was an attempt to become mayor of New York—in a day when a Republican mayor was an impossibility. His first political appointment was the first position of real national importance which fell to him was that of assistant secretary of the navy. He was the active man in that department in his time and did much to prepare the United States navy for the coming clash with Spain. He organized the Rough Riders and went to Cuba. A smart soldier he was brave if not war-wise. The war made him governor of New York and the presidency was in sight. He had in view a nomination after McKinley would retire. To then like Platt and Quay, Roosevelt was a menace. They feared his independence and his growing power. They foresaw a king who would not know Joseph or Tom and Matt—not to say Joseph—of the Roosevelt family by making him vice-president. He accepted against his judgment and his will, and the Republicans began laughing. Then came the assassination of McKinley and Roosevelt's elevation to the dead man's office. The plot was baffled by the bullet of a madman. It became inevitable that Roosevelt would succeed McKinley. And yesterday that came to pass. The assassin hurried events. In all human probability Roosevelt would have held the office in time even had McKinley lived, for he is a master politician and dodger of fortune.

The canvas against Roosevelt during this campaign was picturesque and, at first, well sustained. It fell flat in the face of his immense personal popularity, the prosperity of the modern American spirit, which is a sort of refined aggressiveness. That he would lead the country into war, and the very men who said so yelled approval when he dictated terms to the Sultan. They said he had fomented a revolution in Panama—as indeed he did—and had bested Colombia by bluster and sharp dealing—and so, indeed, he had—and the electors all favored the canal and regarded the people of the Isthmus as so many "Greeks" to be swept out of the way. They shouted that he carried a big stick—and subsequently they rejoiced that it was big and shouted again when it was waved with vigor. They would much like William of Germany; and the next moment there was rejecting from Maine to California because, as they said, there was a man in the White House who would not take any back talk from any ruler of any country.

From the first the enthusiasm and the band wagon were in the Republican procession. Blighted by Bryanism, populism and free silver, the Democratic party managers opposed Roosevelt with a constitutionalist. They opposed the enthusiasm and the man of action with the jurist who was guaranteed "safe." But they were in great error. The money question had been settled beyond discussion, and in the West the suffocation of the silver movement had left the Democratic party weakened by schism. The trusts were an issue, but here to some extent, Roosevelt had stolen his opponents' thunder. He was something of a trust buster himself. The tariff would have been Cleveland's weapon. In Par-

ker's hands it was ineffective because the "safe" candidate could not propose anything radical. Protected interests, it was pretty thoroughly understood, would have nothing to fear from either party. The country is protectionist. There remained the personality of Roosevelt and the personality of Parker.

The result shows that the attempt to create alarm over Roosevelt's impulsiveness and desire to usurp the functions of Congress failed most miserably. Moreover Democracy's showing was unexpectedly weak. The Democratic party, it is shown, is woefully short of men and of issues. Elected on his own strenuous merits, the reign of Mr. Roosevelt should be well worth watching.

SPEAKING OF ELECTIONS

Home, Nov. 7.—The general election for members of the Chamber of Deputies took place yesterday, and up to midnight no serious incident had been reported. Signor Nasi, former minister of public instruction, and a fugitive from justice, accused of pecuniary malversation, was re-elected unanimously by the following townsman at Trapani. Signor Palizzolo, who is considered to be the head of the Mafia secret society, was defeated at Palermo.

Signor Nasi, former minister of public instruction, a fugitive, accused of pecuniary malversation, was re-elected unanimously. Signor Palizzolo, head of the Mafia, defeated. Another despatch gives the additional information that the Mafia man received a really trifling vote—will lose his deposit, indeed, as we would say here. One is at a loss to decide whether Nasi is an admirable thief and Palizzolo a failure as an assassin, or whether the Trapani voters believed the accusations against Nasi unfounded and that the outbreak vote in Palermo has fallen off in late years. One may dismiss at once the thought that Signor Palizzolo of Palermo was "knifed" by his friends, since he had the reputation of controlling all the knives in that district.

One must come nearer home for an explanation of the small Mafia vote in Palermo, evidently. Recent occurrences in New York, New Orleans and other United States centres give us some clue. No doubt Signor Palizzolo was beaten by emigration rather than mere unpopularity. His former supporters, who raised him to place and power in former years, voted yesterday for the Republican ticket in New York and for the Democratic ticket in Louisiana. Signor Palizzolo faces a dilemma. He must remain at home, turn thief like Signor Nasi and get elected by acclamation; or he must follow his merry men of the Mafia to the United States and have them send him to Congress. No doubt he has already booked a steamer passage to the land of the free.

A NEW PARTY?

The following significant paragraph appeared in yesterday's New York election summary:

"Late in the night came an announcement from E. G. Pillsbury, manager of campaign for Thomas E. Watson, the candidate of the people's party, that as a result of the overwhelming Democratic defeat steps would be taken to form a new party. To this end, according to the announcement given out, Mr. Bryan, Mr. Watson and William R. Hearst would hold a conference in New York in about a week's time."

The regular Democrats will scoff at the suggestion, but what of Bryan and Hearst and similar figures of great and sinister ambition? There is no blinking the fact that on Tuesday the Democrats were routed in a fashion to appal the regulars. The depth of the plunge into defeat gives a once discredited faction new importance. The party studied Hearst's presidential aspirations at the convention, but this struggle within the party robbed it of some of the strength it needed last Tuesday. Independent Democrats, it was said, would not "stand for" Hearst. It may be expected that Hearst will not "stand for" them now. Bryan, Watson, even Hill who was for Silver once and for expropriation of the coal regions in Pennsylvania later on—if these men see no hope for advancement within the ranks of the "same and safe" Democracy, will they try a machine of their own creation?

The Bryan movement indicated how many people in the United States would listen to dangerous doctrine. The Hearst newspapers have shown that it pays to feed the mob with the strong meat of socialism. The labor party is one of growing strength and realness. Should Hearst and Bryan seek it they would find material for a new party ready for their hands. It would be a party which the healthy minded majority would crush, to be sure, but it would make some noise in the world first.

THE GUILDHALL SPEECH

We get a somewhat startling impression of the British temper in reading of the Lord Mayor's banquet in London Wednesday when Lord Lansdowne delivered a carefully phrased address on the North Sea incident. There is a tendency in England to blame the government for lack of courage in agreeing to refer its quarrel with Russia to The Hague Tribunal. Mr. Plalfour is ill. To Lord Lansdowne was confided the delicate task of soothing public feeling and persuading the people that the North Sea dispute had been pressed as far as was proper and that the demands of British honor and justice would be fully and satisfactorily met. The Lord Mayor's dinner is a function at which the Premier or one of the ministers is expected to take the public into the government's confidence when events have raised some question of high policy. It was in a Guildhall speech, as one reviewer reminds me, that Disraeli, in 1877, "warned Russia that though Britain, and particularly 'Cis men', hated war, the means and the men would be found to carry it on through more than one or two or three campaigns." It was here that Lord Salisbury, in 1890, rallied his countrymen upon their pessimism and challenged Europe to interfere during the dark days of the Boer war.

It has been predicted, within a few days, that Lord Lansdowne would face a task that would test his powers to the utmost. He spoke to a most distinguished and representative company and it appears, at first, as if he had done his duty. It is seen that he rebuked the jingo spirit which has been much in evidence of late, and told the country pretty plainly that it was lucky in having escaped all that would be meant by a plunge into the greatest war of history at this time. Mr. Arnold Forster, the War Secretary, who spoke first, said the army council was determined "not to rest until the British army was ready to enter the field at any time with absolute confidence in success."

This may be another way of saying that the scheme of army reform is far from complete, and if the inference is correct, the War Secretary but confirmed a somewhat general impression.

Lord Lansdowne deprecated the thought that Britain should seek peace at any price, and plunged at once into a picture of the suffering and devastation wrought by the war in Manchuria. His hearers had to agree with him that to hurry Britain into such a struggle unless it was absolutely necessary would be a crime. He turned then to the dealings with Russia, and admitted his belief that the facts in the North Sea matter were "different from what we supposed, and that each party was convinced of the justice of the case." The questions to be submitted to arbitration had been agreed upon easily, and Russia had consented to detain at Vigo such officers of the Baltic fleet as were responsible for the firing upon the trawlers.

Russia had selected the men who will be implicated if the British case is proven, and in doing so had accepted a responsibility of which it would be a mistake to relieve her. Meantime Russia had guaranteed the safety of a neutral commerce hereafter, had promised ample satisfaction and sent a full expression of regret. What more could be asked?

If there were present some of the jingo gentlemen who have been suggesting that the Baltic fleet be held up until a settlement is reached, they made no sign. On the other hand, while Lord Lansdowne's address reads like an adroit and generally satisfactory one under the circumstances, it created no enthusiasm. The country, in all likelihood, will give it a better reception, for it covers the principal points at issue explicitly and makes it difficult to see what more could be demanded by a hard headed nation. The horrors of the Manchurian campaign will prevent no nation from going to war for a sufficient reason, Britain least of all; but the British are not seeking fighting for fighting's sake.

THE REPUBLICANS AND CANADA

"Great Britain presents no barrier and Canada lowers her in the direction of the mother country, but she is not anxious to lower it more on condition that that country raise a barrier, with doors open to the colonies alone but liable to be opened in other directions. She would prefer to have that of the United States lowered, or to have openings made in it for a less restricted trade. While it presses her no disposition to herself up with the Chamberlain policy, whether that is meant for British protection, for retaliation against protectionist countries, or for a closer imperial union which would allow the colonies less freedom of action."

The foregoing is from an editorial in the New York Journal of Commerce which seeks to persuade itself and others that Canada is more anxious to trade with the United States than with Britain.

The Journal of Commerce favors free trade. It will regard yesterday's majority for Roosevelt as a disaster, we suspect, for the Republicans will make no substantial alterations in the tariff, and certainly will propose no trade terms which would be considered at Ottawa. The Republican platform makes that plain enough. If there is another Colonial conference soon the Journal may be surprised at the results that follow. While it presses ready-made the voters of the United States, or an overwhelming majority of them, cry out against it.

WANTED—AN ASSESSMENT LAW

The Common Council already has authority to appoint a paid assessment commission, and recent developments indicate that this course will be taken. Mayor White, some days ago, distributed among the aldermen copies of the new Ontario assessment act. The Telegraph has secured from a gentleman, who has made a study of assessment matters and who has examined the latest Ontario method, a summary of its principal features. He writes:

The present method of assessment in Ontario, and which is to come to an end on January 1 next, is what is known as the general property tax, as in use in most of the cities of Canada and the United States, Montreal and Winnipeg, being among the exceptions.

The new act is mainly in accordance with the recommendations of the Ontario Assessment Commission which made its report in 1902. In that report there was a very thorough consideration of the taxation of personal property, except on income.

The new act provides for grouping together, real estate, income, and business, and for assessing them at one rate, probably about 1.50 or 1.60, but the assessment apparently not covering expenditures for schools or for local improvements. There is to be no poll tax, house tax, or personal property tax, except on income.

The usual real estate exemptions are provided for, but there is no mention of any widow's exemption. An exemption of \$1,000 (at present it is \$700), will be made from income received from personal services, except in the case of non-residents.

From income from personal property there will be no exemption, except that the business tax is considered as an income tax, so that the income from business is not to be assessed, except such portion as may be in excess of the business valuation. Income from real estate will be exempt, but not the income from mortgages.

There appears to be no provision for a voting qualification in civic elections for non-residents, whose incomes are \$1,000 or under, except that they may, on application, have their incomes assessed for the purpose of becoming voters, and that there may be in force in some cities a manhood suffrage registration act. The business tax is based on the value of real estate occupied, but not one rate on all kinds of business as in the case in Montreal, where it is 75 per cent. on rental values, supplemented by lump sum taxes and licenses; insurance companies, \$100 to \$400; bankers, \$400 to \$600, etc., and the valuation are varied in a different manner for the different kinds of business, and are also modified by floor space value.

The business taxes in Winnipeg appear to be much higher than in Montreal, or than in Ontario under the new act. The plan for Ontario cities is to take for assessment 25 per cent. to 150 per cent. of the value of real estate occupied, with a minimum of \$250 valuation, or about \$5 tax, so that small businesses will not be exempted. The 150 per cent. valuation is for distillers only.

Wholesalers, banks, insurance companies, and others are placed at 75 per cent. valuation, which is equal to about 14 per cent. of rental.

Manufacturers will pay on 60 per cent. which equals about 11 per cent. of rental, and their fixed machinery is to be exempted in their real estate assessment.

Retailers, lawyers, physicians, and non-enumerated will pay on 25 per cent. equal to about 5 per cent. of rental.

Recreative companies including banks, apparently will be assessed on income in excess of their business taxes, and such income will be exempted in assessing individuals. Supply taxes are to be paid by telephone and telegraph companies, rated on their gross earnings.

The incomes over \$1,000, of judges and others in civil service are to be assessed, except those of the Governor-General and the Lieutenant-Governor.

The citizen who furnishes the foregoing says with reason that while the new Ontario act may be useful here as establishing certain principles, it could by no means be adopted by St. John in its entirety. The proposal, carried out in some cities, to raise severity per cent. of the whole amount

from real estate alone and but thirty per cent. from other sources, would, he maintains, be regarded here as revolutionary and unwise.

A paid commission would hear representatives of all interests, and frame a system intended to tax them all fairly. Its report might be accepted or not. The report might be made after amendment. There would still remain the possibility that certain interests might lobby against the measure at Fredericton—such things have happened. But if St. John people were fairly unanimous about the matter the difficulty to be apprehended at Fredericton would not appear great. The question is not a simple one, but a strong commission offers the only promise of solution. It is not clear why should be any more delay in making a start.

LOOKING FORWARD

When asked to explain the rout of the Democratic party Mr. William R. Hearst said: "The result shows that the Democratic party must be Democratic." This, we take it, means that the elements which were kept under at the St. Louis convention will be in the ascendant hereafter if Mr. Hearst and Mr. Bryan have their way. Mr. Bryan, before the election, said the party must be reorganized for the campaign of 1908 and that reorganization would begin as soon as this campaign ended. The St. Louis platform was described by the New York Sun as a "breath of disaster and dynamite." Its tendency to apply to "the Hun vote in the background." Mr. Hearst and Mr. Bryan, one may infer, will remove some of the dynamite and add some more dynamite; for the broth was all too weak for their liking and the liking of the Hun vote, by which is meant the foreign, Socialistic, extreme labor, populistic, and anarchistic elements of the population. "As it is," says the Montreal Witness, "the danger of the Democratic party is that impossible non-trusts will again be championed by mountebanks who will lead out into the wilderness of some folly sufficient numbers again to force the hand of the party to its own undoing."

Chairman Taggart says "there was not enough Democrats; that's all." They were numerous enough, Mr. Hearst will tell him, and a man once had raised a flag to which they would have rallied, the vote would have been different. What that flag will stand for we may know long before 1908.

TALK OF INTERVENTION

Following Lord Lansdowne's Guildhall speech comes talk of overtures from Japan looking towards peace, and the suggestion that Britain, France and the United States may unite in using their influence to stop the war. Japan, one would expect, will deny at once any statement that she has made any overtures. Moreover, while Britain, France, and in lesser degree the United States, may be anxious for a ces-

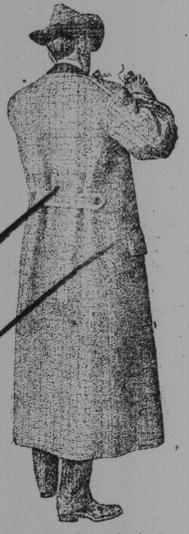
The Season for Overcoats

Is here, and we are prepared for it. Do you want an overcoat? If you do read these columns, they are of interest to you.

Why pay high prices when you can get the best goods at the lowest prices at Oak Hall?

We do not exaggerate. What we promise we fulfil. Our offer is clear as sunlight, as plain as day. The Best Clothing at the lowest prices.

- AT \$5.00—Men's Overcoats made of heavy Blue Beaver, single-breasted, fly front, velvet collar, heavy Italian body lining, fancy oxford sleeve lining, a good warm coat.
- AT \$6.00—Men's Overcoats made of Gray Canadian Freeze, single-breasted, with velvet collar. Length of coat 48 inches, with or without belt; also fancy pattern all-wool Tweed Overcoats, single-breasted, with Belt on back, and length of coat 48 inches.
- AT \$8.00—Men's Overcoats made of heavy weight and checked, cut single-breasted style, belted back, velvet collar, good lining; also fancy all-wool Tweed Coat in stripes, and overalls with belted back, velvet collar and full belt shoulders and long lapels; very stylish coats.
- AT \$10.00—Men's Blue and Black Beaver Overcoats, made of extra heavy fine soft surface imported Beaver Cloth, single-breasted, fly-front, velvet collar, good lining and 42 inches long; heavy all-wool pattern all-wool Tweed Overcoats, single-breasted, with Belt on back, and length of coat 48 inches.
- AT \$12.00—Men's Blue and Black Beaver Overcoats, made of extra heavy fine soft surface imported Beaver Cloth, single-breasted, fly-front, velvet collar, good lining and 42 inches long; heavy all-wool pattern all-wool Tweed Overcoats, single-breasted, with Belt on back, and length of coat 48 inches.



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Yes, the prices are more than right—about 25 per cent. less (for equal quality) than other stores ask.

Is there anything we can say of the way they are tailored you don't already know?—that the styles are correct, the seams strong, the buttons put on to stay? Come, and bring the boy; see how well he looks in an Oak Hall suit.

- Russian Suits, 2 1-2 to 7 years \$5.00 to \$7.00
 - Norfolk Suits, 6 to 12 years 2.50 to 6.00
 - Sailor Suits, 3 to 10 years75 to 12.00
 - Boys' Suits, 3 to 10 years 5.00 to 8.00
 - Buster Brown Suits, 2 1-2 to 7 years 4.50 to 7.00
 - Single and Double Breasted Suits, 9 to 17 years, 3.00 to 12.00
- Refers, Ulsters, Overcoats, Knee Pants, etc.

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GREATER OAK HALL
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SCOVIL BROS. & CO.
 Branch Store, 703 Main Street

all the other committees gave Liberal instructions."

It is whispered, softly whispered by Mr. Tweedie's particular friends, that he is to succeed Governor Snowball at the expiration of the present gubernatorial term—Chatham World.

But why softly?

Mr. Roosevelt kills the third term booby early in the game. He announced last night that he would not again be a candidate for the presidency. His opponents may regard the announcement as gratuitous if not egotistical.

Kent County makes a strong case for Mr. James Barnes and asks that he be made surveyor-general. Premier Tweedie will give the case full consideration. He doubtless knows of other good men stoutly backed by other counties.

The result of the Canadian elections does not afford much promise of support in that quarter for the imperial policy of preferential trade, so confidently launched upon Great Britain by Joseph Chamberlain, and without the support of that great self-governing colony it will have little chance of survival.—New York Journal of Commerce.

Canada has not yet voted upon Mr. Chamberlain's policy. The people of Great Britain have to deal with that first. The Journal's wish is father to the Journal's thought.

Picture glasses should be cleaned with a soft, clean cloth, wrung out of clean cold water, and left to dry without any rubbing. Never wash gilt frames—dust and brass them. If the gilt is chipped off in places brush it over with gold paint, which can be had at any oil shop.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

On and after SUNDAY, July 3, 1904, trains will run daily (Sunday excepted) as follows:

THAINS LEAVE ST. JOHN.

- No. 2—Express for Halifax and Campbellton 7.00
- No. 6—Mixed train to Moncton 8.00
- No. 4—Express for Quebec and Montreal 8.10
- No. 1—Express for 11.00
- No. 26—Express for Point du Chene, Halifax and Pictou 11.45
- No. 126—Sub. from Hampton 12.15
- No. 2—Express from Sussex 12.15
- No. 123—Sub. for Hampton 12.15
- No. 134—Express for Quebec and Montreal 12.15
- No. 10—Express for Halifax and Sydney 12.15

THAINS ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN.

- No. 9—Express from Halifax and Sydney 6.25
- No. 125—Sub. from Hampton 7.45
- No. 7—Express from Sussex 8.00
- No. 123—Express from Montreal and Quebec 12.50
- No. 127—Sub. from Hampton 12.50
- No. 2—Express from Point du Chene 12.50
- No. 25—Express from Halifax, Pictou, Campbellton and Point du Chene 12.50
- No. 1—Express from Halifax 12.50
- No. 81—Express from Moncton (Sunday only) 12.50
- All trains run by Atlantic Standard Time; 14.00 o'clock is midnight.

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ation of hostilities, any movement to bring it about must be beset with difficulties. Of the three France is most interested in peace at this moment, but a short answer from either combatant at this stage of the war would end all talk of intervention for the present.

Diplomats of several nations may know that the time to talk of intervention has arrived, but the world at large has no evidence of it. The common view is rather that Japan will take both Port Arthur and Mukden before she talks of terms. One well-informed observer puts it in this way:

"It is almost inevitable that Port Arthur will fall in a few days. Nothing is gained by holding out longer. It is impossible for the Baltic fleet to arrive in time to be of any assistance, and even if it ran the blockade which Togo has established, it would bring none of the supplies that are needed by the people inside the walls. There is to be a stubborn resistance on the sea. The Russian fleet, if it arrives, and if it exhibits no better generalship than he displayed off the Scotch coast, it is a resistance that will be ineffectual. What will be the effect when Port Arthur falls? The Japanese force that is now besieging it can be withdrawn to join the army of Oku-Nobuyuki and Kuriki that is holding Kuratkin in check. With that sudden accession how long will it take to reduce Mukden? It looks as if the end of the war was not far, particularly if the Russians continue to be supplied with vodka."

If Port Arthur and Mukden were taken Japan might rest satisfied, for the task of driving her victorious armies out of Manchuria would be admittedly beyond Russia's strength, and, seated at Mukden, Japan would hold all, and more than all of the territory originally involved in the dispute. That the Japanese will listen to talk of mediation before they have taken the coast fortress and wrested the old Manchurian capital from the enemy appears most unlikely. Again, the Powers will talk twice about interference while there is any chance that interference might mean that the war would have to be fought over again a few years hence.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Some persons are unkind enough to say that before there is a new city hall there should be a new city council.—Evening Times.

Tammany Hall did not make much showing yesterday. The Republican vote in Greater New York confounded the Democratic prophets.

Today being Election Day, this paper will not be published tomorrow.—New York Journal of Commerce.

That would be regarded as a mighty poor reason heresobouts.

Speaking of the result in New Brunswick the Charlottetown Guardian says it "is noteworthy that the six Opposition seats are all in a compact body, clustering about St. John"—this county, Charlotte, Kings, Albert, Queens-Sunbury and York—"while