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SIXTEENTH YEAR — MONDAY MORNING APRIL 22 1895. — ONE CENT.

"FAVORED NATIONS."

Germany and Belgium Come Under the French Treaty.

WHY LEGISLATION IS REQUIRED.

Manitoba May Yet Remove the Minority's Grievances.

Ottawa's 400 Slight Lord and Lady Aberdeen—The March Bank Statement Indicative of Reviving Trade—Value of the Parliamentary Libraries—Significance of Mr. Laurier's Remarks Regarding Manitoban Schools—A Long Delayed Letter.

Ottawa, Ont., April 21.—In the Speech from the Throne it is intimated that legislation will be required before the French treaty can go into effect. Mr. Foster explains this by the statement that as Great Britain has treaties with some powers in which the most favored nation clause appears, she is anxious that her other colonies should have as good treatment as is given to France in this respect, as to any other foreign power with which Canada makes a treaty. As regards the most favored nations, it is absolutely necessary, under the treaties, that their articles, which are of the same nature as those mentioned in the French treaty, must receive most favored nation treatment. The Canadian Act of Parliament in which the treaty is embraced does make such a provision, and the fact of the existence of the treaty does not override the tariff law of the country. Accordingly Great Britain wishes that, before ratifications are exchanged and the treaty is proclaimed, the actual law shall make that point clear as regards the most favored nations and the colonies. This explanation on the part of the Finance Minister, while not as definite as it might be, puts an altogether different complexion upon the French treaty. In other words, it is held to be essential that the privileges in trade which Canada extends to France must also be extended to Germany and Belgium.

This interpretation necessarily puts quite a different complexion upon the unfortunate French treaty. It means that Canada must concede advantages to Germany and Belgium, in return for which we get no equivalent. The new arrangement is bound to create considerable discussion in the House.

Will Manitoba Restore the Minority's Rights?

There is a feeling in political circles that after all the Manitoba Government may do something in the direction of restoring the rights and privileges of which the Catholic minority have been deprived. Two or three sentences uttered by Mr. Laurier on Friday testify more than volumes to the correctness of the Government's action so far. He spoke of the Manitoba Government being left "to apply the remedy to the evil which has been created by their own legislation." And again, "the first thing they (the Government should have done, in my estimation, was to have appealed to the Government of Manitoba to redress the evil which their own legislation had created." Mr. Laurier, therefore goes the length of admitting the Greenway legislation created an "evil." Without question the form of the Remedial Order will be attacked by the Liberals. They claim it was too dictatorial, that it should have been couched in more conciliatory language. Attorney-General Sifton, who is still here, indicates the view which Manitoba takes of the order. He says it "means restoration of the old school system in its entirety as it formerly existed. It means unqualified teachers and an inefficient system. The Manitoba Government will never go back to that."

From talks which I have had with Conservative members from Ontario, it appears that, while there is a disposition to accord fair play to the minority of Manitoba, yet the idea of foisting an inefficient school system upon the province is very repugnant to them. Le Temps, the French-Liberal paper published in this city, has repeatedly declared that if Catholic schools of Manitoba are as inefficient as the Separate schools of Ottawa, that it would be worse than folly to restore them. A candid admission of this kind from a friendly source should be a pointer to Mr. G. W. Ross to see that the education law is enforced in this city.

The New Dominion Reformatory.

The Government have appointed Mr. M. J. McLennan, Civil Engineer and Provincial Land Surveyor, Williamstown, to locate and make the survey of the site for the new Dominion Reformatory at Alexandria. Mr. McLennan entered upon his duties last week, and, having engaged his men in Alexandria, he is now at work. It is altogether likely he will take levels of the properties on each side in case that it may be necessary at any future time to expropriate. These surveys and plans are necessary in order to enable the architect to prepare his plans for the building, which will no doubt be proceeded with at as early a date as possible.

The March Bank Statement.

Although not all that could be desired, yet the statement of chartered banks for March is marked by recuperative tendencies. There is shown a slight increase in capital paid up, amounting in all to $1268, divided between three banks. There is a noticable reduction in reserve funds, amounting to $194,667, the whole of which has been made under that heading in the Bank of British Columbia. This seems odd in the face of an increase in rest account at the last annual meeting, held only a couple of months ago. Our banks, with head offices in London, do not seem to be able to bear the pressure of the hard times equal to these with head offices in Canada. The current of bank notes in circulation has again turned to run in the right direction, and shows an increase of $599,362, with encouraging prospects for the future throughout the other headings of the statement. An increase of $1,241,952 is shown in balances due to the Dominion Government, which has no special significance from a business point. Balances due to Provincial Governments show a reduction of $452,997. As is usually expected, we find deposits of the public reduced considerably over 1 3-4 millions in all, the greatest amount, viz.: $1,102,359, being in those payable on demand. The other items on liabilities are of little importance; as bearing on trade a reduction of $587,322 is shown in total liabilities. The change in specie amounts to an increase of $321. Dominion notes show a reduction of $792,459. Deposits with Dominion Government for security of note circulation have fallen back to the same amount as in the January statement, viz.: $1,810,736, a reduction of $1565, evidently from some misunderstanding of charging interest to the Government, as otherwise that account should remain stationary from July 1 to the same date the year following. Notes and cheques on other banks increased $190,696, and loans to other banks secured are reduced $137,575. There has been a reduction of over 2 3-4 millions in balance due from banks and agencies in foreign countries, but an increase of over one million in banks and agencies. Nearly half a million reduction is shown in Dominion Government debentures, and considerable reduction in foreign and colonial securities. Railway securities hold their own, with an increase of $363,581, but a falling off is noticeable in call loans of $776,341. Currency loans increased $8,463,986, a goodly move under that heading. Loans to provincial governments increased $202,257. Overdue debts show a reduction of $173,127. An increase of $604,871 is shown in total assets, and an increase of $35,504 is noticeable in liabilities of directors. The statement throughout, though giving unmistakable evidence of dulness in trade, yet there are also justifiable indications to hope for a considerable revival in the near future.

Ottawa Slights Their Excellencies.

The "400" of Ottawa have good reason to be ashamed of themselves. As a result of their absence from the vice-regal levee in the Senate Chamber Saturday evening the function was anything but a success. Said a prominent Ottawan, after he had just made his bow to their Excellencies: "This is simply disgraceful. During the past winter the Aberdeens have not been sparing in their hospitality; not a week has passed when they were in the city without two or three dinner parties, and yet this is all the return the Governor-General and his lady get for their kindness." Others who were present were equally as outspoken. From the time Their Excellencies took their position on the throne until they disappeared in the chambers of the Speaker of the Senate, all presentations being then over, but 35 minutes elapsed. The number of those by actual count who were presented was 317. A few years ago there used to be a tremendous jam at the vice-regal drawing room, 800 or 900 people being present. In the days of Lord Lansdowne or Stanley it often took two hours to conclude the levee. Great sympathy is expressed for Their Excellencies, who must have felt hurt at the slight

Value of the Parliamentary Libraries.

The joint report of both librarians has been presented to the House. The first paragraph of the report reads as follows: The Colonial Conference of July and the later conference with the delegates from Newfoundland provide in a most striking manner the value of the large collection of Imperial and colonial official reports and publications, which the librarians make constant efforts to maintain and increase. The space occupied by such collections is necessarily large, and, like all space in the library, is rapidly drawing to an end. As to the discussion of educational questions, the report says that the interest taken in such matters at present would justify efforts being made to provide information on the subject, as well as on any special question before the public. In view of the constant discussion on the labor question a complete set of reports of the Royal Commission on Labor has been added to the collection in the library, apart from the Imperial blue books. These reports contain a vast amount of information on the conditions of labor in the United Kingdom and abroad.

A Valuable Work.

Mr. N. S. Garland, the well-known clerk of financial statistics in the Department of Finance, has just published a work which should prove to be of great value to banking and commercial men. It is five years ago since Mr. Garland first published his book on banks, bankers and banking. The volume was very warmly received throughout the English-speaking world. The new edition just out is a great improvement upon the former one. It contains all the legislation bearing upon banking and commercial matters in Canada. In addition, there is a concise history of banking and currency in the Dominion, followed by a well-written synopsis of banking systems in other countries, including England, Scotland and Ireland, Australia, France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, Russia and the United States. Tables of the currencies of every country in the world, with explanatory notes, are also given in the book. There is also an interesting chapter relating to bills of exchange and promissory notes prefatory to an explanation of the legislation existing in Canada. Insurance men will be interested in the explanatory notes on insurance legislation.

The summary of the commercial laws of the several provinces is well done. The latter half of the work is a very complete financial directory, containing information pertaining to banks in all parts of the world. The appendix contains an abstract of the annual statement of the principal banks in Canada. The volume is bound to prove of great value to commercial men generally.

The Geological Survey.

There is one feature of the work of the geological survey which is often lost sight of. With the object of encouraging the study of geology the department donates collections of minerals to educational institutions in Canada, in each case ranging from 100 to 150 specimens. During the past year 44 High schools, Academies or Collegiate institutes were supplied in this way, the total number of specimens sent out being 5930, aggregating over two tons in weight of material.

Notes.

The Cabinet was at work all day Saturday on the estimates.

Ottawa has no love for transient traders or dealers in bankrupt stocks, etc., and generally tries to make things unpleasant for strangers. On Monday the police magistrate will have another test case, on account of a transient trader coming here. Mr. Watson Bradshaw, agent, of Messrs. Kay, Son & Co., Toronto, house furnishing, has been doing business here, and is charged with being a hawker without a license.

The debate on the address will be resumed Monday by Hon. David Mills, and it is just possible that when he sits down the debate will end. The intimation that the school question is not to be discussed on its merits until it is seen what action Manitoba will take has deprived the debate on the address of all interest.

Mr. J. B. Tyrrell of the geological survey yesterday received a letter, which was mailed to Ottawa from the Arctic Circle in August last. When Munroe Ferguson and he were on their travels in the Barren Lands last year, Tyrrell gave this letter to an Eskimo, with a request that he hand it to the first white trader whom he met. Tyrrell and Ferguson reached Ottawa weeks ahead of the letter.

George Moffatt, ex-M.P. for Restigouche, is spending a few days in the city.

Mr. W. W. MacDonald, M.P., for East Assiniboia, arrived here yesterday. He says that seeding in his constituency is about over, the winter was a delightful one and generally helpful to stock.

Deposits in the Postoffice Savings Banks last month totalled $667,158 and withdrawals $702,407.

Arthur Burwash, barrister of Arnprior, has been appointed Dominion revising officer for South Renfrew.

Application is made for incorporation of the Imperial Brush Manufacturing Company, with headquarters at Montreal, and a capital of $140,000.

WILL RUSSIA SCARE JAPAN?

UNITED ACTION OF EUROPEAN POWERS TO REVISE THE TREATY.

It Is Believed Russia Will Demand Territorial Compensation in Manchuria—Germany and France Will Co-Operate—Nothing Yet Known as to the Actual Contents of the Peace Treaty.

New York, April 20.—The Times London cable says: There is still a complete and baffling uncertainty as to what is to come out of the situation in the far east. The London Foreign Office never gossips, and now it is more severely buttoned up than ever. On the Continent there is more fluent expression of opinions, but these are not obviously speculation. Everything depends upon Russia, and everybody is perforce waiting for a hint what direction she is to move in. There is a theory here that she will turn up with a demand for territorial compensation in Manchuria, and probably get it. This, however, and everything else, is complicated by our real ignorance of Japan's mood and aims, and of her actual as distinguished from her published understanding with Li Hung Chang. The statement from Washington that Russia has been all along consulted by Japan, and was in complete accord with her at every step, is laughed at here.

A Matter of the Gravest Importance.

The Sun's London special says: Europe awaits with the keenest interest authentic news of the treaty of peace between Japan and China. The matter is regarded by all the great powers as of the gravest importance of any diplomatic event since the Berlin treaty was signed. Now that the war has ended in a manner such as no European prophet has foretold, there are not wanting expressions of regret in all the great capitals that Lord Rosebery's advice to the powers to interfere at the outset was not acted upon.

The diplomatic apprehension which is almost everywhere expressed tends, however, to much exaggerate the danger from Japan's menacing growth from a child to a giant among the nations. Few fears are felt of any immediate effect upon European interests, but all the foreign offices profess to see the gravest dangers in the suggestion of a Chinese-Japanese alliance, with an avowed Asia for the Asiatic's policy.

Japan Testing European Opinion.

It is generally understood that the forthcoming treaty will contain no clause to this effect, but the impression prevails that there will be several secret agreements, which are not included in the official treaty. It is understood that Japan has been carefully testing European opinion for several weeks past, by throwing out this and other suggestions in so-called forecasts of the terms of peace. This special point aroused unanimous opposition that the Japanese Government made haste through its Minister to France yesterday to allay the apprehension. He denied, with authority, that the treaty contains any provisions for an offensive and defensive alliance. He added: "It appears to me impossible that there can be any entente between two nations which have long been separated by feelings of antipathy and even deep hatred. Indeed, I am almost certain that there is no alliance, and that the treaty is a mere pact relating to hostilities."

He went on to remark that in spite of an armistice and approaching peace, the Japanese Government had been compelled to interfere with many local newspapers, as they were abusing China in a most violent manner. Europe, he concluded, had no reason to feel disturbed at the stipulation of the treaty, as Japan, far from becoming a military or commercial adversary, would open fresh markets in Asia for Europeans and Americans.

Will Be Revised in Europe.

There is no doubt that the treaty will be secretly revised by the European Cabinets before it is ratified on May 8, but whether any suggestions which may be made will be accepted by China and Japan is, of course, impossible to say. The belief is strong that both Russia and England will make an active use of the influence on the impressed prevailing in the diplomatic circles of London, that Japan will be shrewdly willing to make important strategic concessions in Asia to those powers, in order to secure liberty to carry out her plans without interference.

The Treaty Ratified.

London, April 21.—A despatch from Hiroshima to the Central News says that the Mikado ratified the Chino-Japanese treaty this afternoon.

Russia Will Protest Against the Treaty.

St. Petersburg, April 20.—A semi-official note has been issued to the newspapers here to the effect that the Russian Government is in no wise satisfied with the Chino-Japanese treaty, especially the clause providing for the cession of Liao-Tong. Russia, the note says, will act in concert with other powers in protecting the interests of Europe, even supposing one of the great powers does not share in such action.

Germany and France Will Assist Russia.

Berlin, April 21.—The Koelnische Zeitung contains this statement: In view of the pressure exercised by the Japanese war party, Germany urged Japan at the beginning of March to be moderate in her terms of peace, adding that a demand for the cession of mainland territory would be especially calculated to induce European intervention. When it appeared from reports of the conditions offered by Japan, that she was little disposed to follow this friendly advice, initial steps were taken on March 23 to establish an understanding with the European powers. A complete agreement was reached by Germany and Russia, and the co-operation of France was secured. The three powers will now proceed to take joint steps in Japan to protect their interests. The territorial changes at which Japan aims will be the first point to be kept in view. The object is to prevent Japan from entwining herself so tightly round China as to be able, in case of need, to shut off the latter entirely from Europe. Such an injury to their interests the powers desire to avert in good time. Japan has shown hitherto such circumspection that she may be expected now also to desist from drawing the bow too tightly.

The Nord Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung says: Germany never had any idea of abstaining from intervention in the east. Throughout the war she has been fully alive to the great danger that might arise for Europe, both politically and commercially, as a result of the new order of things in East Asia. Germany's share in the European interests concerned is so important that the Government would be guilty of serious neglect in case it should not vindicate our claims with firmness and determination to the full extent.

JAPAN WANTS HAWAII.

Conquest of the Islands Would Be Easily Effected—Volney Ashford Ill.

San Francisco, April 21.—Honolulu, April 13.—Correspondence of the United Press, per steamer Australia: Col. V. V. Ashford, the Canadian imprisoned for connection with the late rebellion, has been pardoned out of prison on condition that he leave the island, not to return. He intended to sail to-day for Germany, but had to be taken to the Queen's Hospital. His condition is somewhat critical. While in prison he was well cared for in comfortable quarters. He was serving a sentence of one year's imprisonment for treason.

It is positively learned here that public sentiment in Japan is strongly turned in the direction of taking possession of Hawaii. While the native Hawaiians still constitute the largest nationality, 34,000, to the Japanese 25,000 the latter have the greater number of male adults, being 20,000 to the natives' 16,000. There can be no doubt that a small Japanese squadron, with 1000 troops, co-operating with the resident Japanese, could easily overcome any resistance possible for all the rest of the population of Hawaii to make.

The safety of this Government against an early conquest by Japan must be in the protection of the United States. Failing in that, appeal must be made to British protection. The feeling of this Government is becoming clear that they may at an early day find themselves under the necessity of surrendering these islands to England in order to escape from the Japanese aggression, unless the United States adopts a definite and decided policy of protection.

GOOD NEWS FROM THE CHITRAL.

Robertson's Garrison in the Chitral Relieved by General Low.

Calcutta, April 20.—General Sir Robert Low, who commands the Chitral expedition, telegraphs from the fort of Jambatai Pass, which he is about to cross, that disturbing news has reached him regarding the British garrison in the Chitral fort. The garrison, he says, is hard pressed by the tribesmen, who, on April 16, carried the mines within 10 yards of the fort. General Gatacre, the commander of the second brigade, who is advancing upon Dir, is pushing forward with all possible haste. The news received in Simla in the last few days justifies the fear that the efforts to relieve Mr. Robertson and his companions in the fort will prove too late.

A late despatch says: General Sir Robert Low telegraphed this morning from his camp at Batai Pass that Mr. Robertson, the British agent, and the rest of the garrison of the Chitral Fort had been relieved. No details were given.

MUST ADOPT A GOLD STANDARD.

Secretary Morton Declares That This Must Be the Policy of the U.S.

Washington, April 20.—Secretary Morton gave out Saturday a significant interview on the silver question. When asked if he thought anything would grow out of the proposed International monetary conference, Mr. Morton replied: "I do not believe that an International Congress can establish permanently a commercial rate between rice and wheat, but if an International conference can fix the price in gold or silver, it can also fix the price of wheat or of any other commodity, and thereby avoid all the possible shrinkages in values which tend to cause panics."

"What," asked the reporter, "should be the policy, then, of this country, if nothing is to be gained by a further international conference, and it seems