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LONDON, ONTARIO.

London, Saturday, April 5.

The Opening Guns.

The Provincial campaign is now fairly begun. At Newmarket yesterday the Premier issued a clarion call to the Liberal cohorts, while the leader of the Opposition unloosed his thunders at Port Hope. The two forces are lining up; the standard-bearers have been chosen in nearly every riding; public meetings are being projected, the leaders are taking the stump, and local party organizations are shaping themselves for downright work. The precise date of the elections has probably not been fixed, but there is a general impression that June will see it over, though the Government is under no compulsion to go to the country for a year.

✦

Now that the Opposition has dropped its appeal to religious bigotry the issue before the electors is a purely business one, calling for their hard-headed practical judgment. The Ross Government is a business Government, and stands upon its business record. "Build up Ontario" is the keynote of its policy, eloquently sounded by the Premier. Unless the Opposition can offer something more than cavil and criticism, a policy better calculated to develop the resources of the Province, open up its new territory, administer its departments more efficiently, and promote its progress generally, it is hopeless to try to detach from the Liberal party any of the support which has maintained it in power for thirty years.

✦

Perhaps the boldest and most aggressive move of the Ross Government is the decision to build a railway, 160 miles long, from North Bay to the Temiscaming district. This is the first instance of any Provincial Government committing itself to public ownership on so large a scale, and it required a great deal of courage and faith on the part of the Administration to stake its own reputation and the credit of the Province in such an undertaking. It was absolutely necessary that some one should build the road to give the people of Temiscaming access to the outer world, promote the settlement of the district, and, equally important, keep the growing market there for Ontario producers. At present it can be reached only by a circuitous rail and water route from the Province of Quebec, which diverts the trade of the new region from its proper channel through the Province of Ontario.

✦

Here is a purely business proposition, on which it would be thought both parties could unite in the interests of the Province. Mr. Whitney and his followers dare not stand out against the principle of government ownership; they profess to advocate the building of the road; they have not offered a single objection to the conditions under which the Government propose to construct, operate and finance it; yet at the recent session of the Legislature they did their utmost to throw obstacles in the way and block the speedy execution of the contract. Their idea was to snatch a small party advantage in the city of Ottawa, where there is some agitation against the North Bay route, the claim being that Mattawa should be the point of departure, in order to preserve the trade to the Ottawa Valley. The Mattawa route would parallel the C. P. R. tracks for 40 miles, and the Government has engineering advice that it presents physical difficulties involving an expenditure which no government could justify to the people. Meanwhile settlers continue to pour into the Temiscaming country, and its commercial importance to Old Ontario grows by leaps and bounds. For the benefit which Old Ontario is soon to reap little thanks are due to the Opposition.

✦

A vigorous attack is being made on the pulp policy of the Government, Mr. Whitney denouncing it as a public larceny, in his usual sweeping fashion. Mr. Whitney suggests that the pulpwood should be put up at auction and sold to the highest bidder, like pine timber. The Government's plan is to permit a syndicate or an individual to cut pulpwood on a delimited area for a period of years, upon the condition that a pulp mill is erected in the Province and a certain amount of capital invested; the concessionaires to pay dues on every cord of pulpwood cut, the amount of the dues to be regulated by the Government from time to time. Which is the better policy? In the first place the spruce grows only in scattered clumps and a very little of it may be spread over a vast area, so that a would-be purchaser could not even approximately estimate the quantity on a given tract of country. Again the Government's idea is to attract the settler by giving him all the pulpwood on his location; but under Mr. Whitney's system the settler would be deprived of the spruce on his lands—a source of revenue which is of material aid to the pioneers of New Ontario. The Government's motive is to build up industries in that region, based upon its natural resources, thereby giving employment to labor, providing a near market for the settlers, creating centers of population, and diffusing all the advantages of a settled community. That is why the establishment of a manufacturing plant, involving a large outlay of capital, is made a condition of every pulpwood concession, and the marvelous growth of the pulp industry proves the wisdom of this course. It was on this point that Mr. Marter, who is Mr. Whitney's deskmate in the House, and predecessor in the leadership of the Opposition, felt obliged to break with his party and support the Administration.

✦

In the development of the vast heritage to the north depends the destiny of Ontario, and the maintenance of its hegemony among the provinces of the Dominion. It has been a record of progress that few in the older portions of the Province realize. New Ontario in 1881 had only 12 miles of railway; today it has 1,804 miles, which the Province has aided to the extent of 607 miles. The population has increased from 15,728 in 1871 to 150,000. The Premier, in his budget speech, pointed out that towns and incorporated villages had grown up which were unknown 30 years ago. Here are the populations of them:

Sault Ste. Marie	7,169
Rat Portage	5,202
Fort William	3,633
Port Arthur	3,214
Parry Sound	2,884
North Bay	2,531
Bracebridge	2,479
Huntsville	2,152
Gravenhurst	2,147
Sudbury	2,027
Sturgeon Falls	1,418

✦

We might also dilate on the enormous mining development and the industrial colossus being reared at Sault Ste. Marie. The more the value of New Ontario is illustrated, the greater must be public gratitude toward the Government that fought for the possession of this rich territory. When Sir Oliver Mowat was in the throes of that famous struggle, he got no helping hand from the Opposition of that day, and perhaps Mr. Whitney is consistent in his present attitude toward the north country. He has either failed to realize its possibilities or has opposed progressive measures for fear some credit might accrue to the Government. He voted against the yearly surveys of new townships, against the appointment of a clerk of forestry and of a provincial road commissioner, against the maintenance of an immigration office at Liverpool, against the subventions to the Algoma Central Railway and other lines needed to open up and colonize the new districts, against the pulp concessions, and, to crown all, against the immediate construction of the Temiscaming Railway. This is not a record that will appeal to a business people.

Mr. Whitney is still filling up the aching void of the Conservative policy with fierce and flatulent invective.

Man has an inalienable right to the pursuit of happiness, but the fact remains that most of his spare time is occupied in trying to get away from the other thing.

Cecil Rhodes has dedicated his fortune to nobler uses than those to which he sometimes dedicated his powers. Still he was a Titanic figure and will loom larger in the perspective of history.

Off the platform or out of the House, Mr. Whitney is an amiable personage. When he talks of a "monstrous iniquity," or a "colossal steal," he really doesn't mean it. He has a weakness for rounding out a period with a sounding vocable.

Our compliments to Lieut. Morrison, who has been decorated by vice-royalty with the Distinguished Service Order, for saving his guns at Lillifontein. When his war-paint is off, Lieut. Morrison edits the Ottawa Citizen.

A denial is given to the rumor that Dr. McKay, of South Oxford, is to accept a public post and retire from politics. The wish could hardly have been father to the thought, for no member of the Legislature was more popular with both parties than the doctor.

The complimentary banquet to Hon. James McMullen by the Liberals of North Wellington was a well-earned tribute. He has been one of the most useful public servants in Canada, and there is no reason why his usefulness should end with his appointment to the Senate.

The Edinburgh Scotsman, the leading newspaper in Scotland, says there is no prospect whatever of Great Britain reversing her trade policy to meet the views of those who think she ought to sacrifice her foreign trade by imposing taxes on all products imported from any country not a British colony. Great Britain seems to need the "enlightenment" of Canadian Opposition orators. Who will volunteer to go and secure the conversion of the Old World "heathen?" It is up to W. F. Maclean, George Taylor, Dr. Sproule and Sam Hughes.

The Supreme Test.

[Chicago Tribune.]

"You may be a clergyman," said the railway dignitary to the stranger who had applied for a half-fare permit, "but you haven't furnished me sufficient evidence of it. How do you pronounce Melchizedek?"

"Mel-kez-e-dek," promptly responded the stranger.

Without another word the railway man made out the permit.

His Only Chance.

[Chicago News.]

"Henry!" said Mrs. Enpeck, in a tone of voice that was meant to command attention.

"I'm actually ashamed of you," said the strenuous half of the aggregation. "Are you aware that you deliberately yawned while Mrs. Neighbors was here this evening?"

"Of course I am, my dear," replied the unhappy man. "You certainly did not expect me to sit all evening without opening my mouth, did you?"

An Outside Opinion.

[Montreal Herald.]

If the Province of Ontario is today the home of an intelligent, prosperous, energetic community, it is largely due to the guidance of this Liberal ministry of the last thirty years. It deserves well of the people.

A Recipe for Bliss.

[Pittsburg Dispatch.]

Miss Johnson—I t'ink we are jes' de happies' couple in de hull worl'!

Her Fiancee—Well, we will be, Dinah, jes' as long as we t'ink so."

The Lost Ball.

Standing one day on the golf-links,
I was weary and ill at ease;
And I baffed and foozled idly
Over the whins and tees.
I know not what I was dreaming,
Or where I was rubbering then;
But I swiped that ball, of a sudden,
With a force of two-score men.

It sped through the crimson twilight
Like a shot from a ten-inch gun;
And passed from my fevered vision
To the realm of the vanished sun;
It chasseed over the bunker,
It caromed hazard and hill;
It went like a thing infernal—
I suppose it is going still.

It shied each perplexing stymie
With infinite nerve and ease;
And bored right on through the landscape
As if it were loath to cease.
I have sought—but I seek it vainly—
That ball of the strenuous pace,
That went from the sole of my niblick
And entered into space.

It may be some blooming caddy
Can sooner or late explain;
It may be that only in heaven
I shall find that ball again.
—Laura Simmons in March Smart Set.

Celebrity Down South.

[Calgary Albertan.]

One of the members of the delegation of press men who visited the Southwestern States this winter met in with some congenial spirits in Arizona.

"Where are you from, stranger?" asked the Arizoner.

"From Canada," returned the delegate, with pride.

"Oh, yes, Canada. Say, who's keeping hotel there now?"

"Little Breeches."

John Hay, American secretary of state, has done some pretentious literary work, notably a biography of Lincoln; but he is best known as the author of "Little Breeches." The poem is as follows:

I don't go much on religion,
I ain't never had no show;
But I've got a middlin' tight grip, sir,
On the handful o' things I know.
I don't pan out on the prophets
And free-will, and that sort of thing—
But I b'lieve in God and the angels,
Ever sence one night last spring.

I come into town with some turnips,
And my little Gabe come along—
No four-year-old in the county
Could beat him for pretty and strong.
Peart and chipper and sassy,
Always ready to swear and fight—
And I larnt him ter chaw terbacker,
Jest to keep his milk-teeth white.

The snow come down like a blanket
As I passed by Taggart's store;
I went in for a jug of molasses,
And left the team at the door.
They scared at something and started—
I heard one little squall,
And hell-to-split over the prairie
Went team, Little Breeches and all.

Hell-to-split over the prairie!
I was almost froze with skeer;
But we rousted up some torches,
And sarched for 'em far and near.
At last we struck hosses and wagon,
Snowed under a soft white mound,
Upsot, dead beat—but of little Gabe
No hide ner hair was found.

And here all hope soured on me,
Of my fellow-critters' aid—
I jest flopped down on my marrow-bones,
Crotch-deep in the snow, and prayed.

By this the torches was played out,
And me and Isrul Parr
Went off for some wood to a sheepfold
That he said was somewhar thar.

We found it at last, and a little shed
Where they shut up the lambs at night.
We looked in and seen them huddled thar,
So warm and sleepy and white;
And thar sat Little Breeches and chirped,
As peart as ever you see,
"I want a chaw of terbacker,
And that's what's the matter of me."

How did he git thar? Angels.
He could never have walked in that storm.
They jest scooped down and toted him
To whar it was safe and warm.
And I think that saving a little child,
And bringing him to his own,
Is a derned sight better business
Than loafing around the Throne.

A Cause for Jealousy.

[St. Louis Globe-Democrat.]

No wonder Paderewski is jealous of Kubelik, for, while Paddy has been wept over and pelted with violets, never has he had the proud distinction of being rescued by the police from a mob of hysterical adoring women.

Delarey's Steering Apparatus.

[Denver Post.]

Gen. Delarey parts his whiskers in the middle just enough to keep from wabbling while chasing the enemy against a strong head wind.

DR. A. W. CHASE'S CATARRH CURE ... 25c.

is sent direct to the diseased parts by the Improved Blower. Heals the ulcers, clears the air passages, stops droppings in the throat and permanently cures Catarrh and Hay Fever. Blower free. All dealers, or Dr. A. W. Chase Medicine Co., Toronto and Buffalo.

The amount of merchandise transported by rail in the United States is double that of all the other nations on the earth collectively.

Lever's Y-Z (Wise Head) Disinfectant Soap Powder is better than other soap powders, as it also acts as a disinfectant. 24

Unmarried women of Michigan are to petition the legislature for exemption from taxation on estates less than $5,000.

Messrs. C. C. Richards & Co.

Gentlemen,—After suffering for seven years with inflammatory rheumatism, so bad that I was eleven months confined to my room, and for two years could not dress myself without help, your agent gave me a bottle of MINARD'S LINIMENT in May, '97, and asked me to try it, which I did, and was so well pleased with the results I procured more. Five bottles completely cured me, and I have had no return of the pain for eighteen months.

The above facts are well known to everybody in this village and neighborhood. Yours gratefully, A. DAIRT,
St. Timothee, Que., May 16th, 1899.

GEM-DECKED CHURCHES

Rare Treasures That the Bay of Panama Yielded to the Spaniards.

[From the Jewelers' Circular Weekly.]

When the stranger arrives at Seville and Toledo and the guides conduct him to the cathedrals of those old cities, he is struck with their magnificence and the abundance of the pearls which are their finest decorations. These pearls came from the Bay of Panama, and date from the epoch when the Spaniards, at the zenith of their glory, made the conquest of America. These Panama pearls rival the most beautiful pearls of the orient Quite recently, in the spring of 1899, a lad of 15 years found an oyster containing a pearl which was sold at Paris for 50,000 francs. For his portion he received 20,000 francs.

A considerable quantity of pearls procured at Panama are sent to New York, where they do not lack purchasers. One consignment exceeded in value 750,000 francs. The island pearls are thus denominated on account of the archipelago in which the oyster fisheries are carried on. It is opposite the Bay of Panama. The achipelago is composed of sixteen islets, in which are thirty to forty small villages of negroes and Indians. The soil is fertile but the principal occupation is that at the fisheries. The largest isle, called Rey, alone embraces half of the population. San Miguel is the chief place of the fisheries, and there there is a very fine church. The inhabitants are nearly all blacks. They are descended from the negro population, from whom the Spaniards learned the advantage they could derive from the island riches. In certain of the islands there must have been diamond beds. Some fine rough diamonds were formerly procured.

There are two systems for carrying on peal fishing in the Bay of Panama. In certain spots, where the yield is the most abundant, it is necessary to pay the government a very high tax. At other points the tax is small, but a percentage on the pearls discovered is added to it. Generally, these pearls are rather small. They usually bring from five to fifty francs each. Those which reach 150 to 300 francs are already much less in number.

JOTTINGS FROM NEAR-BY PLACES

KOMOKA.

Komoka, April 4.—Miss Effie Lamont has returned to Buffalo.

Miss Minnie and Master Cecil Stilson, of Wyoming, are visiting here.

Miss Regina Jones, of Petrolia, has been visiting her aunt, Mrs. Lince, here.

Mr. Lewis Hord has been visiting at his home here.

Miss Minnie McKellar is in London.

Mr. F. Rhode, of London, visited here recently.

Mr. Fletcher and family have removed to their cottage.

Miss E. Mitchell has been visiting in this vicinity.

Mr. McLane, of Dutton, is visiting here.

The teachers, Miss McLaren and Mr. Wyatt, are spending Easter holidays at their homes in Watford and Springbank.

Miss Bartlett, of London, is visiting here.

Miss J. and Master C. Mowat are spending their vacation in the village.

One day recently the Sutherland brothers sawed on the farm of Mr. D. McKinnon 110 cords of wood in eight hours, beating their old record by ten cords, made in 1898.

Misses Rachel McIntyre and Bynia Stewart visited in Caradoc one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. George Good, of St. John, have removed to this village.

Miss Armstrong, of London, visited relatives here last week.

Mr. Lince has been visiting in London.

Mr. Charles Wernham and family have removed from the village.

Miss Anna Sinclair, of Mount Brydges, has been visiting here.

Rev. Mr. Hurlbert preached his farewell sermon in the Baptist Church on Sunday.

Mr. J. McKellar has the contract for building Mr. Blackwell's store.

BYRON.

Byron, April 4.—Mrs. Warren Elson is very ill at her home here.

Mr. H. Wickerson is building a new barn.

Mr. Wickerson is slowly recovering from an attack of paralysis of the throat.

Mr. Mort Elson has returned to Toledo.

Mrs. E. Ellwood is visiting friends and relatives in Bothwell and Highgate.

MELBOURNE

Melbourne, April 4.—Mrs. (Dr.) Dunfield Petrolia, spent Easter with relatives in Melbourne and vicinity.

Mrs. Nelles has returned home after spending two months with her daughter, Mrs. Smith, of St. Thomas.

Masters Ivan and Harry Young, of Alvinston, are spending their Easter holidays with relatives in Melbourne.

Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Hillman spent Monday with friends in Newbury.

Miss Belle McNeil, of Walkers, visited relatives in Melbourne this week.

WYTON

Wyton, April 4. — Miss Fonger is spending her holidays at her home in Belmont.

Miss Nellie Angus has returned home after spending some months with friends and relatives in Wanstead.

Mr. C. Culham, Toronto, is holidaying at his home here.

Mr. Barber has moved to Mr. White's, in London township, and his father has taken his position at "The Pines."

Miss Bessie Angus spent Easter with her sister in London.

Mr. W. Pitt has moved to the Scatcherd farm.

Miss Etta and Pennie Blight, London, spent their holidays under the parental roof.

Mr. Fred Scatcherd is able to be around again after his illness.

Miss May Stainton has returned to her home in Listowel after visiting with the Misses Angus here.

At the league meeting on Tuesday evening Miss Lena Martin gave a very interesting report of the convention held in London on March 11 and 12.

PUTNAM.

Putnam, April 4.—Miss Allie Hodgins was presented with the following address upon her retiring from the principalship of Putnam public school.

Dear Miss Hodgins,—Deeply regretting your departure from our midst, your friends and associates have met together as a testimony of our appreciation of your kindly services. Not only in the public school where your labors have been successful and highly satisfactory, but as organist, Bible class teacher and Epworth League worker, have your talents been employed. In all departments of the church you have labored patiently and faithfully, and have, by your example, helped us to live pure and holy lives, realizing that the things of this world are as nothing compared with the rich reward prepared for those who love and serve the Great Redeemer. We, your friends of Putnam, wish to thank you for your earnest efforts in our behalf. During your sojourn of over three years you have won the love and esteem of all, and we ask you to accept this ring and picture as tokens of remembrance. Signed in behalf of church, league and Sunday school, Chas. Dundas, Robt. Clifford, jun., Geo. Johnston.

Another appreciative address from the pupils of her school was signed by Maggie Rath, Ada Small, Pearl Collins, Hattie Rath, Geo. Shannon and Fred Huntley.

The most expensive and roomiest railway station in the world is that of the Peninsular Railroad at Bombay.

New Britain (Conn.) holds the record for inventiveness. Over 1,400 patents have been issued to 344 of its citizens.

The entire population of Malaga Island, off the mouth of the New Meadow River, Maine, is suffering from measles.

The Juneau-Skagway cable has not been used for two months, owing to a break which cannot be located.

208, 210, 210½ and 212 Dundas St.

The Runians Carson McKee Co.

208, 210 210½ and 212 Dundas St.

LACE CURTAIN SPECIALS.

WE'RE SIMPLY IN IT when you want anything in the line of window decorations.

We emphasize today two extraordinary bargains in Lace Curtains.

Special line, Nottingham Lace Curtains, 3½ yards long, 60 inches wide, taped and lockstitched edges, strong thread, good patterns, per pair $1 00

Special line, Nottingham Lace Curtains, 3½ yards long, 50 to 60 inches wide, taped and lockstitched edges, double thread, 5 different designs, per pair $2 00

$1 French Kid Gloves for 55c.

A splendid glove, nothing wrong with it, only the low price. We bought them at a great reduction off regular prices from a large importing house wanting to clear out their glove stock. They come in tans, mode, brown, green, navy and black, and are sold everywhere for $1 per pair. Our price while they last will be only 55c.

GENTS' FURNISHINGS

People who plan to get most value for their money buy their furnishings from us. Fancy prices don't rule here. We draw special attention to our fine stock of Hats. Every new and worthy style represented. We undernote a special line of Ties and Shirts.

Special line Men's Shirts, soft fronts, fancy stripe, assorted colors, all sizes, at, each 50c

Special line Men's Ties, in four-in-hand, string and bows, new colors, at, each 25c

Millinery News.

Exclusiveness, beauty, style and elegance of our new Millinery is well worth a visit, in fact worth several visits. Our busy creating force are daily making Hats and Bonnets by the dozen that go on exhibition soon as completed. You'll not find the style and quality in hats shown elsewhere at the prices we offer.

Linen Specials.

We have seldom sold Linens faster, nor have we ever given our customers more desirable goods or better prices. Although the linen market is advancing yet we are selling special lots in worthy grades at prices lower than for several years past.

See our 68-inch Half-Bleached Table Damask, worth regularly 45c, for 35c
See our 72-inch Half-Bleached Table Damask, worth regularly 50c, for 40c
See our 70-inch Extra Heavy Linen Damask, worth regularly 65c, for 50c

SPECIAL OFFER!

FREE DURING APRIL.

I will send free to each person sending me his name one of my latest improved Electric Belts. I mean what I say, and make this great offer for a short time only, in order to thoroughly introduce my splendid goods throughout all Canada, as each person receiving a Belt, and who is cured by it, is the best possible advertisement, and is always the means of placing several orders.

My Belt cures Rheumatism, Lumbago, Weak Back, Nervousness, Dyspepsia, Losses and troubles brought on by abuse and excess. I will also send free, sealed in plain wrapper, the latest edition of my well-known Medical Book, "Electro-Therapeutics," which contains hundreds of important facts that every man and woman should know. This beautiful book will be sent free. We want every man who is fortunate enough to read this special notice to write us at once, as this exceptional offer will be good for this month only. My latest Improved Belt is guaranteed to be stronger than any other, and is totally different from them in every respect, and it always gives perfect satisfaction. It is the only guaranteed Belt now sold that generates a powerful and beneficial current of electricity the instant applied, without using vinegar. It is positively the best Belt made, and it can now be had for the asking. Any person who may have used another Belt will be pleased at the great improvements in my splendid Belt. Send in your name today, and receive free this splendid Book and Belt.

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2269 St. Catherine Street, Montreal, Que.

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For Infants and Children.
The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper
Children Cry for CASTORIA.

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Standard remedy for Gleet, Gonorrhœa and Runnings IN 48 HOURS. Cures Kidney and Bladder Troubles.
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Cures Deep-seated Colds, Coughs, Croup, Bronchitis
LARGE BOTTLES $1.00
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POPULAR PARCEL $5.10

Lot No. 313 CONTAINS:—1 pair Rich Artistic Drawing-Room Curtains, 4 yds. long, 2 yds. wide. 2 pairs alike, Handsome Dining-Room Curtains, choice old lace design, 3½ yds. long, 60 in. wide, 1 pair neat Floral Pattern Bed-Room Curtains, 3 yds. long, 50 in. wide, 1 pair new fashionable Sash Curtains, 1 table centre, renaissance design, 1 Set of Duchess Toilet Covers, one 45 in. long, and five smaller. Ecru if desired. On receipt of Post Office Order for $6.30, the lot sent per Parcel Post, direct to your address in Canada well packed in oilcloth.

Customers throughout the Empire testify to the reliable work, Marvellous Value, and Durability. First Prize Medals, Toronto 1892; Chicago, 1893.

G. PEACH & SONS, Lister Gate, Nottingham, England, Established 1857.

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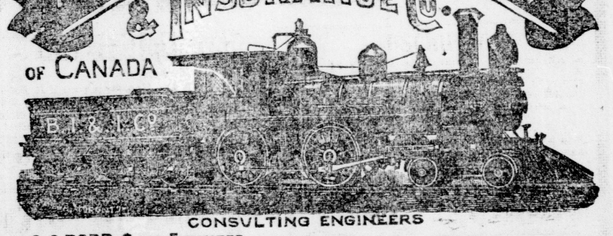

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