

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N.B., MARCH 5, 1902.

St. John, N. B., February 26, 1902.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH
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C. J. MILLIGAN, Manager.

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Semi-Weekly Telegraph
ST. JOHN, N.B., MARCH 5, 1902.

MR. KING'S ELECTION.

The election of Mr. Ora P. King to the local legislature in Kings county on Saturday by a very handsome majority is a just rebuke to the methods of vituperation and slander which characterized the campaign of the opposition. It proclaimed conspicuously the fact that Toryism can never expect to be successful in any contest in this province until they drop their blackguardly tactics and eliminate slander from their alleged system of politics.

The victory of Mr. King is very gratifying also, however, because it shows that the people of Kings appreciate the good work which the local government has done in connection with the development of the agricultural and mineral resources of the province and endorses the government's prudent and progressive administration of affairs. It was of material advantage to Mr. King that more than the usual length of time was given for the discussion of the various issues, for it afforded the people the opportunity to thoroughly satisfy themselves in regard to the insufficiency of the claims of his opponent for support. The election might have been brought on within about two weeks of the issuing of the writ, but the government allowed more than a month, and it was noticeable that as the discussion proceeded Mr. King's strength kept increasing. The opposition made great use of the bogus Rotheysay list story to attach odium to the government in connection with this attempted outrage upon the electorate. Naturally the feelings of the people were aroused and one can readily see how many votes, while otherwise inclined to vote against it in order to express their disapproval of the tampering with the lists. Wherever Mr. King and those in the campaign with him spoke, however, it was not found difficult to satisfy the people that neither Mr. King nor the government were in any way responsible for the occurrence, and so there is no doubt that many people who were at first inclined to oppose the government on the ground of that canvass, concluded before election day that the story should not enter into the campaign; consequently they supported the government candidate upon the merits of the administration.

A marked feature of the campaign was the fact that the opposition were obliged to admit that the policy of the government had been beneficial to the province and it was a serious handicap to them that they were forced to say to the electorate that a victory for the opposition when the general elections might come on would not result in any change of this policy. Mr. King, as the contest proceeded, proved to be a strong candidate. His frank, manly and independent speeches gained for him wherever he addressed the electorate. One cannot help being struck with the fact also that in the parishes of Sussex, Waterford and Cardwell, where he is best known, Sussex being his home, he obtained the magnificent majority of 103 votes, while in Hampton, Mr. Sproul's home, he only led Mr. King by eight votes.

The significance of the victory is emphasized from the fact that all the forces of the Conservative party rallied on their side. Mr. Fowler, M. P., who had the prestige of having carried the county in the Dominion election about a year ago, left his parliamentary duties at Ottawa and threw himself into the campaign with his well known vigor. He addressed meetings in various parts of the county and sought to bring all possible force to bear in favor of Mr. Sproul. Mr. Hazen, M. P., leader of the local opposition, Mr. Geo. V. McInerney, ex-M. P., and others

also lent their vigorous aid, but it was all to no avail and Kings stands today in line with the local government, satisfied and smiling.

PROVINCIAL SUBSIDIES.

A matter which may possibly merit future consideration has been brought up by a resolution in the Quebec legislature demanding a revision of the Confederation Act of 1867, so that Quebec may receive a larger annual subsidy from the Dominion treasury than 80 cents per head of the population of 1861 which is now alleged to be insufficient. If Quebec should receive an increased allowance of course the other provinces would likewise have to benefit similarly and it seems a question whether the general readjustment would make the Dominion as a whole any better off, for the payment of the money to the provinces would necessitate an increase of direct taxation.

It would be necessary for a convention between the federal and local premiers for an exchange of views on the matter, however, before any proposition could be fairly formulated, as the idea would have to be seriously considered by the men who would be called upon to rearrange the fiscal policy in accordance with the plan. The suggestion of the Hamilton, Ont., Times on the proposition is that it might be better to abolish the provincial subsidy system altogether and leave each province to collect its own revenues by direct taxation. This was the method favored by Hon. George Brown and several other of the Fathers of Confederation and is the method adopted by the United States in its original constitution. Such a change would have the effect of enabling a very material reduction of indirect taxation by the Canadian Parliament and may be one of the things sooner or later to commend itself for action. But the people of Canada will have to be better educated both as to the merits of direct taxation and the advantages of a low customs tariff than they are today before such a change can be effectively promulgated.

NEWFOUNDLAND'S POVERTY.

With the progress of the winter come the regular stories of destitution and distress about the shores of Newfoundland. Even in the city of St. John's this year it is stated that subject poverty prevails among people whose sensitiveness and pride will not permit them to make their hunger known. To a greater or less extent the same is true every winter and the world at large begins to wonder why. In the case of the repeated famines and distress in India the causes are largely in the gross ignorance and superstitions of the natives. Is it possible that any similar condition can prevail in Newfoundland? When the natives in India are educated and learn to know better, they do better, and they cease to die of starvation in such proportions.

But Newfoundlanders are not natives of India. Their heritage has been of the sturdiest blood and most vigorous ancestry. A Newfoundlanders is able to do a man's work if any man in the world is. His country is far from being overcrowded. It is a country which in climate and natural resources compares favorably with any part of Canada. It is a country well wooded, well-watered, with magnificent agricultural districts, its forests are kept splendidly stocked with game, its fisheries practically illimitable, much of its interior as yet virtually unexplored, its mineral resources almost unknown, and its proximity to Europe and other continents giving it a commanding position in the way of reaching markets. With a population of 210,000 in 1890 the revenue from customs duties was \$1,020,000, the imports \$9,419,000 and the exports \$7,128,350. More than 600 miles of railway are in operation in the island and there is fair steam communication coastwise and foreign.

This is an excellent showing in natural advantages and not a bad showing of business. Why then should there be poverty in Newfoundland? Why should any one be destitute and without the necessities of life? The problem must surely reflect upon the people themselves for its answer. What has the government been doing to educate the people to improve their conditions? Do we find any schools established for the instruction of the men in the most advantageous methods of fishing and agriculture? Has any educational enterprise been encouraged and fostered by the government such as our Farmers' Institutes in New Brunswick? And if not why not? We do not find that any satisfactory answer can be given to these questions. The poverty and ignorance of the people seems to be taken as a matter of course, and to be relieved only by direct charity. The system of education, such as it is, is largely by denominational schools and sectarianism in its bitterest forms is reported to flourish.

These existing conditions which seem to result purely from the social system among the people, are not highly creditable. The evidence is in fact that they are not only discreditable to Newfoundland, but unpleasant for the rest of the empire. The Newfoundlanders seem to have every opportunity possible for making themselves not only happy and contented, but prosperous. This, however, can only be accomplished by liberal education of the proper kind among the masses. There is a grand and glorious opportunity for some one in Newfoundland with enough pride and patriotism to confront conditions fairly, devise and prescribe the remedy, and preach it until it is accepted. It is not a gratifying thing for Newfoundland that as yet the Moses does not seem to have arisen among them to lead them out of their state of bondage and destitution.

CRISIS IN THE TIME QUESTION.

If the city and province are to have the benefit of the inauguration of Atlantic Standard time the coming summer it is desirable that no days be lost in declaring for the measure. It was brought to public notice in this paper recently that the railways are now preparing their summer time-tables and have evinced a willingness to change to Atlantic Standard in time if the civic and provincial authorities express themselves as desirous of the change. In line with this announcement it is gratifying now to find that the C. P. R. has already issued to some of its patrons advance typewritten copies of its summer schedule in which Atlantic Standard time is specified for the New Brunswick end of the road. This shows that the C. P. R. is not only willing but anxious to inaugurate the reform if the other authorities will fall into line. They ought not only to fall into line, but to lead.

The thing to do now apparently is for the city authorities, who have the matter before a committee, to act without delay in promulgating their decision and also for the local legislature, as early in the session as may be, to enact Atlantic Standard as legal for the province, in the same way as has been done by the provincial legislatures of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. That they may have no hesitation in taking this action is evident by the circumstances and by the great unanimity expressed in favor of the movement throughout the maritime provinces. At least two of the municipal councils in this province at their January sessions adopted resolutions urging such legislation, and the leading associations and business men of this city have similarly expressed themselves.

The great question in the past has been the possibility of securing uniformity. The public interest evinced through the past winter has resulted in solving this problem satisfactorily and it is now apparent that by official declarations in this province being made for Atlantic Standard, the great boon of uniformity throughout the three provinces, both for railway and all other time purposes, can be secured. This is a matter in which politics has absolutely no connection. It is purely a business proposition in which great advantage can be attained if it is sought for. But now is the time to act.

LOCAL OPPOSITION IS SORE.

The Sun is very sore over the defeat in Kings county and, as was to have been expected, exhibits its soreness by all sorts of invective against the victors instead of squarely admitting its defeat and the fact that the only reason therefore was that the opposition could not induce enough electors to vote for it in order to win. If the Sun had any spark of manliness in its composition, which it does not seem to have in spite of its martial elements, it would have discovered long ago that one who is beaten in a square stand-up fight on a ground of his own choosing and has the grace to fairly acknowledge it, may at least win the respect of his opponents and the spectators, but if he adopts the course of running away and whining, like a sniveling hypocrite of a bully, the spectators are apt to exclaim that he richly deserved all he got in the way of punishment and disappointment.

In regard to the Kings county election it was a battle ground and the opposition's own choosing. They put up no opposition in the by-elections in Kent or in St. John counties, preferring to wait and concentrate their forces in Kings. This they did deliberately and with the evident intention of carrying that constituency. That they have been fairly defeated, and with a showing for their candidate in his own parish which was not highly complimentary, is a conspicuous exhibition of the fact that the opposition has neither policy nor leaders which appeal to the people of this province as worthy of their support in comparison with the record of the existing administration and the men who have made it. The result in Kings on Saturday last will meet the appeal of the provincial government when it is made to the country at large by the effluxion of time in the course of some months to come. Meanwhile the legislative majority who will assemble at Fredericton on Thursday have reason for congratulation that their policy has met with the success and appreciation which it deserves and upon the culmination of which they may safely depend for endorsement at the polls.

PEACE OVERTURES RUMORED.

The rumor seems to gain ground in London, although it has doubtless been exaggerated by the Pro-Boer Americans, that strong efforts are being made to establish peace in South Africa before King Edward's coronation in June, and to that end an exceptionally liberal proposition is to be made to the Boer leaders. Some of the rumors go so far as to state that general amnesty will be offered to all the Boer leaders, including even Kruger and Cronje, and that they will be represented in the appointive council to be established for the new crown colony, which representation, it is said, may ultimately be increased to an equal number of seats with the English. Other generous concessions, it is stated, are to be numerous, including even the granting of money for the rebuilding of Boer farms, etc. There are many true and loyal subjects of the empire who would not be inclined to endorse such liberal treatment of the Boers, and some would doubtless even go

so far as to recommend that no quarter be given them, that expatriation if not extermination is their due and that they cannot be trusted to appreciate any leniency. It must be borne in mind, however, that the worst fault of the Boers has been their gross ignorance and misguided zeal, which compares with the days of witchcraft, stake-burning and slave holding. When the Boers have learned more and become impressed with that admiration for British institutions which has always grown in natives under British colonization, their rising generation at least may become good citizens and as patriotic for their new flag as for that which they so mistakenly flaunted in the face of freedom. It is to be hoped that the Boers will have already seen the advantages of sincerely accepting the new condition of affairs that is now inevitable for their country and will to their own advantage therefore meet whatever proposals that may be made to them for the genuine closing of the struggle.

THE SUN AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

Our morning contemporary, which, when politics are concerned, seems to find it extremely difficult to tell the truth, states that at Robbsey on Saturday, the Attorney-General tendered his vote as a resident of Kings, and on objection being taken by Mr. Sproul's agent, retired. What actually took place was this: Before the opening of the poll, Mr. Pugsley stated to Mr. Sproul's agent that, having been for upwards of twenty years continuously on the resident list and assessed as such, and his domicile having always been in the county, both his legal residence and domicile were in Kings, and in his opinion he was entitled to vote, but if there was the slightest objection on the part of anyone to his voting, he would not do so. Mr. Sproul's agent replied that he thought Mr. Pugsley was not a resident within the meaning of the act, and the Attorney-General thereupon said that he would not vote. He did not tender his vote, as the editor of the Sun doubtless knew when he penned the article referred to.

REMEDY THROUGH PUBLICITY.

A certain element of the people in St. John express regret at the publicity given the evidence in the hospital investigation on the ground that "St. John will get an awfully bad name, you know, for having such a state of affairs." On the contrary, it is not far better that St. John shall acquire a good name for undertaking to remedy complaints and reform a public institution which ought to be continually maintained above reproach? Is there any way to efficiently attain the end except by publicity? If such things as are reported should be found upon evidence to be correct, is it not highly desirable that the public become so thoroughly awakened and alarmed that they shall firmly resolve never to permit a public institution to get into such a condition again? Is it not for the fair fame of the city that every possible blot upon the conduct of public institutions shall be removed and particularly in a place where there are helpless sick folks that all causes for complaint shall be remedied?

If a man were condemned to prison and suffered a little unnecessary inconvenience through neglect of the attendants, there might not be so much cause for sympathy with him, although there would be no excuse for neglect of duty by the attendants. But in a hospital where it is the boast of modern civilization that sick poor receive equal skill and attention with the rich, it would be a jewel in the crown of any city to maintain the best possible institution of its kind. Happily the commission investigating affairs seem to be now on the proper road to success. Let the good work go on, brethren!

THE BOERS' GREAT CHANCE.

If the Boers all migrated to Patagonia, and Cronje and DeWet and the others became full-fledged Patagonian chiefs, and took a notion to dispute matters with Chili and Argentina, what fun they could have! In fact, the prospect seems to be so much better for them there than in Texas, where the miles can do the kicking, that perhaps it may pay DeWet to suggest voluntary evacuation if given free transportation. They might possibly overrun all the Central American states a thing or two about how to conduct revolutions. And as a South American people they could secure all the Monroe Doctrine sympathy desired from the people of the United States. What a grand old Patagonian chief Oom Paul would make!

SAVINGS BANKS.

The governor of Massachusetts has recommended the total separation of savings banks from national banks and a measure is now before the state legislature to that effect. The action shows the disadvantage of the American savings bank system as permitting lack of confidence to arise from many sources. The people of Canada in contrast to the people of the States have great reason to be thankful that British ideas of banking solidity prevail here and that our savings banks represent the same "of safety. In them, under our system of government, a man may begin a deposit account for his child on the day it is born and rest absolutely satisfied that it will be all right when the child reaches a marriageable age.

The New York aldermen are considering a regulation to limit the height of buildings to 200 feet. At least fifty buildings now exceed that and there are several which exceed 300 feet in height.

Boys' Clothing--Big Reductions.

If we hadn't such peculiar notions as to how new and fresh a Clothing stock should be at the beginning of every season, we'd sell all we could of these Clothes at full prices and keep the rest till next fall and winter.

But we've got that peculiar notion, and besides we want the trade of Men and Boys who want good clothes, but haven't found out yet where they are, and so we are willing to lose some money on the balance of stocks.

You will need to take quick advantage of such pricings as these.—

Vestee Suits—These suits are for boys 3 to 9 years old, and are made in tweeds, serges, chevots and worsteds. We have grouped them into three lots, with a full range of sizes in each lot, and priced them as follows:

Lot 1—Former prices, \$2.50, 2.75, 3.00;
Your choice, \$2 00
Lot 2—Former prices, \$3.50, 3.75, 4.00, 4.50;
Your choice, \$3 00
Lot 3—Former prices, \$5.00, 5.50, 6.00, 6.50,
7.00, 7.50;
Your choice, \$4 00

Two-Piece Pleated Suits—There are over 200 Suits in this lot, and are for boys four, five and six years old, and are made in Tweeds, Serges and Worsteds. We give you your choice of \$2.00. Former prices were \$2.50, 3.00, 3.50, 4.00, 4.50, 5.00. Exceptional bargains in this lot of suits for some one.

Boys' Ulsters—Our full stock of boys' ulsters are placed in two lots, and priced as below:

Lot 1—Former prices, \$3.00 to \$4.50;
Now \$2 50
Lot 2—Former prices, \$5.00, 5.50, 6.00;
Now \$3 40

Two-Piece Pleated and Norfolk Jacket Suits for boys 7 to 12 years. We have made three lots of these suits and priced them as below:

Lot 1—Former prices \$2.25, 2.50, 2.75;
Your choice, \$1 90
Lot 2—Former prices, \$3.25, 3.50, 3.75;
Your choice, \$2 90
Lot 3—Former prices, \$4.25, 4.50, 4.75, 5.00, 5.25;
Your choice, \$3 90

Boys' Three-Piece Suits, for boys 9 to 16 years, made from all the popular fabrics. We have priced them to clear as below:

Lot 1—Former prices, \$3.50, 3.75, 4.00;
Your choice, \$2 95
Lot 2—Former prices, \$4.50, 5.00, 5.50;
Your choice, \$3 95
Lot 3—Former prices, \$6.00, 6.50, 7.00, 7.50;
Your choice, \$4 95

Boys' Reefers, for boys 3 to 16 years, in Beavers, Naps, Friezes and Curly Cloth. Prices are now:—

Lot 1—Former prices, \$2.50, 2.75, 3.00;
Sale price, \$2 00
Lot 2—Former prices, \$3.50, 3.75, 4.00, 4.50;
Sale price, \$3 00
Lot 3—Former prices, \$5.00, 5.50, 6.00, 6.50,
7.00, 7.50;
Sale price, \$4 00

You can't afford to miss this sale if your Boy needs Winter Clothing for this season or next.

GREATER OAK HALL, SCOVIL RBOS. & CO

NOTE AND COMMENT.
Congratulations to Mr. King, of Kings, M. P. P.

With the advent of the new postage stamps the King will be cornered.

We had a very nice Indian summer last fall. Now look out for an Indian winter.

The spring that has thus prematurely been sprung upon us will probably recede.

There seems to be call for better attention to the dead as well as the living at the public hospital.

Ladies are beginning to plan their Easter military and gentlemen to plan how to pay the bills.

Amherst, N. S., wants to be made a seaport. The difficulties are not so great as were those of Manchester, England.

The law against the president of the United States receiving gifts from foreign potentates doesn't affect his daughter apparently.

The Nova Scotia county jails are described by Judge Meagher as worse than dog kennels, and a central jail for the province is advocated.

New York has made a law prohibiting the shooting of pigeons for target sport—a cruelty that had of late grown to abominable proportions.

It is said that Miss Roosevelt practiced the shooting of pigeons for target sport before the day arrived for her to christen the German yacht. Then there was a meteoric splash of champagne.

The authoritative denial which we print today in regard to the rumors of resignation of the Minister of Railways will be good news to all readers of The Telegraph, who will rejoice that the Minister is regaining his wonted health and strength.

Live stock of all classes to the number of 15,657,162 head, valued at \$283,953,239 was the record of the Chicago stock yards last year, breaking the record for any previous year by 318,225 head.

St. John has a great advantage over many other cities in that it can't be flooded out. Boating in the streets of the majority of cities during spring freshets is not uncommon, but just imagine boating in the streets of St. John!

President Roosevelt doesn't seem to be making fast friends in the South. First he angered the southern whites by entertaining the representative negro, Mr. Booker Washington, and now the people of South Carolina are at loggerheads with him for having declined to condone the extravagant conduct of Mr. Tillman

WRECKAGE ASHORE TELLS OF LOSS OF STEAMER TIBER OFF NOVA SCOTIA.

Telltale Life Belts, Bearing the Vessel's Name, Picked Up -- Feared All Hands Are Gone With Her -- Was on Voyage from Louisbourg to Halifax.

Halifax, March 3.—(Special)—There has been anxiety tonight as to the fate of the steamer Tiber, which sailed from Louisbourg Wednesday for Halifax with a cargo of coal.

When news was received here tonight from Canoe that a large quantity of wreckage had been picked up at the western entrance of that place today, consisting of a steamer's deck house, with planks attached, also an easy chair and lounge, at Port Felix, West Whitehead, fishermen picked up a large wheel, two chairs, lounge and side of a ship's boat and at Goldboro, 15 miles west of Canoe, two life buoys marked "Tiber, Montreal," and other wreckage was found. This latter established beyond doubt that the steamer has been lost and it looks as though all on board had perished.

Fishermen searched the shoals and islands off Canoe in hopes of finding some trace of the crew, but nothing further was discovered up to late tonight. It is thought the steamer broke down after leaving Louisbourg and in the storm which raged on the coast Sunday night was driven to her doom.

The Tiber was under command Capt. Rouanger. The owners are Ald. Archibald, of this city, and M. Dobell, of Quebec. The Tiber was from here to Philadelphia, and was loaded with brick for Cape Breton. She recently brought a cargo of pine from Georgia to Sydney.

The Tiber was an iron built ship of 1134 net and 1736 gross tonnage. She was 233 feet 6 inches long, 33 feet beam and 24 feet 6 inches depth. She was built at Glasgow, Scotland, in 1870, and hailed from Montreal. She was formerly on the route between Montreal, Charlottetown, Halifax and St. John and has made many trips to that port.

The passengers of the steamers Neckar and Karlsruhe are being landed here the first train load of about 500 eastern bound passengers left tonight for New York and the second train of western bound passengers will follow tonight or tomorrow morning. The third will leave tomorrow evening and the fourth during the night. There are about 2,300 passengers in all. The I. C. R. will take them from Halifax to Western Junction, near Montreal, where they will be turned over to the C. P. R. The Neckar was towed up by three tugs this morning and docked at the I. C. R. pier.

Yarmouth, N. S., March 3.—(Special)—U. S. Consul Carter today received a telephone message from Lockeport, stating that the American fishing schooner Reliance, with crew of 18 men, was ashore eight miles off that port and that she will be a total loss. The crew were all safely landed and are on the way here.

in congress. But then what the gentlemen of South Carolina say is of no more importance than the utterances from North Carolina, and they are both Democratic.

There is one thing that that proposed combination of Russia, Germany and France against England and Japan falls short in, which is the merchant fleets for the transportation of supplies and of troops. Britain has demonstrated her ability in that line to the astonishment of the world, and could also probably in the way of finances call any opponents bluff.

Rather an extraordinary dictum from the pulpit seems to be that of a Presbyterian clergyman Sunday according to our report, that "the healing of bodily disease was no part of Christ's mission on earth." Surely we have Christ's example, which

was the best of his teaching, that care for the sick is one of the highest Christian virtues. Would the reverend gentleman deny that prayer for the sick is desirable?

"Does farming pay?" asks a country contemporary. Why should it not pay? Everything that a farm produces is salable for cash and it is only a matter of business as to whether the balance shall be upon the right side of the ledger or not. With good natural conditions and farming conducted upon a proper business system with intelligent modern methods, it cannot fail to pay.

India exports only 14 per cent of its wheat in the best of years, while in Argentina the exportable surplus of wheat in normal years is more than two-thirds of the crop. This means in Argentina an export of 1,100 to 1,500 pounds of wheat per head of the population, and in India only 53 pounds, but in bad years in India only 2 to 4 per cent of its wheat is exported. The harvests in both countries are contemporaneous.