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THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH
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These newspapers advocate:
British connection
Honesty in public life
Measures for the material progress and moral advancement of our great Dominion.
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**Semi-Weekly Telegraph
and The News**

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 1, 1913.

THE STREET RAILWAY SITUATION

More than any other single factor, street railway development in and about St. John—or the lack of it—will affect the city's growth and prosperity. For this reason most citizens will examine attentively, and hopefully, the situation created by the application for legislation permitting the construction of suburban electric lines, and the substantial offer made Monday for the purchase of the stock of the street railway.

The average citizen believes in St. John, and desires that public utility corporations shall promote the city's expansion rather than retard it. The common object in these matters, so far as the citizens are concerned, is merely the public benefit. The public is not favorable or hostile to this group of street railway men—or to that—it wants action, along progressive lines, and, also, it is rather weary of delay and of explanations for delay.

The Legislature has no interest in these matters beyond the interest of the city, the use of whose streets makes street car transportation profitable. The holders of public franchises owe certain clear duties to the people in whose streets they operate. If existing companies or existing franchises have produced inadequate results, if a today no satisfactory outlook for the extension of the city's local transportation system and the reduction of its lighting charges, the fault is that of the citizens—unless they have been too long suffering or too forgetful of their rights.

For these reasons it may be said that the public and the Legislature should be ready to examine impartially any new proposals for long needed extensions, and to give favorable consideration if the applicants show good faith. There should have been a line to Kane's Corner a year ago, to Millville two or three years ago, to Westfield, to Rothesay, and in other directions. We shall never get them by standing pat or by supporting those who favor a stand-pat policy. This is St. John's growing time, and street and suburban railway development is a pressing necessity.

WHAT'S BEYOND?

"Life after life—be not afraid," were the last words given to the world by Joaquin Miller. In this age no message is more needed than that of the aged poet whose "ascending soul" has reached at last the serene upper air that lies beyond the storms of time.—Toronto Globe.

It is a noble message, sure enough, and a needed one. Time was when Joaquin Miller, living or dead, would not have been this tribute from the Globe, or any other journal widely read by people of all denominations. It is to be noted, too, that in the Globe's view the poet's soul is now in that "serene upper air" that lies beyond the storms of time. Few will doubt this, we trust.

But the incident suggests either how much the average man's belief concerning these things has changed in the last generation, or how much his form of expressing his belief has changed. What is the average conception of heaven and of the after-life in Canada? Who will answer? In our grandfather's day the average man believed, or professed to believe, a rather wild and not wholly satisfactory doctrine regarding the future state. Has the average man whistled the old picture down the wind? Has the average clergyman retained it? There are some interesting sermons in an expansion of the poet's final message and the Globe's assurance, both of which are, perhaps, somewhat too indefinite.

NATURE AND SOCIETY

The men who so freely charge humanity upon society are not always familiar with the facts. We do not live in a rich and fertile world that responds to every touch. The climate restricts the number of crops a man can raise in a year. Optimistic men are promising to make bread directly out of stones by chemical processes, thus delivering us from the uncertainties and toils of agriculture and gardening. But their prophecy of chemical pellets from stones, and more nutritious than stones, is a mere fancy as yet. The world is by no means a perfect world. Taking it by and large, it is a hard and cruel world, in which little is to be got except by toil and anguish; and of that little not all can be kept by any degree of care and pains. There are, indeed, regions where the earth brings forth spontaneously and freely, but these are not regions where man has arrived at any promising degree of maturity or strength. Even there, in the midst of tropical plenty the serpent stings, the earthquake and tornado work their frightful mischief, cholera and malaria kill, and guinea fow, at irregular intervals, covers the land with the dead. It is only a fraction of human misery that can be charged upon society.

It is true, on the other hand, that if nature imposes limitations, she also assists the men who understand her in a very liberal way. Knowledge makes many of her forces and laws the drudges of man. This is the meaning of the story of Prometheus and his magic, in the pages of Shakespeare. The spirit Ariel and the magic wand represent modern science. Wind and wave are servants to the man who reads the secret of nature and learns how to command her to his will. The lightning rained long over the plans of America without establishing any settled government or solving any social problems. The St. Lawrence has always been the same old stream. It is today, but the red man did not make it a commercial highway. In the same climate, in view of the same mountains, tilling the same soil, different men have lived under very different conditions. It will not do to blame nature for all man's difficulties. Many of them are due to ignorance, injustice, oppression, social inequality, organized human error and selfishness. Many evils are within man's power to remove or greatly mitigate by his science, his art, his intelligence and education. Irrigation makes the plain independent of rains. New modes of curing and preserving fruits and meats give a more varied diet at all seasons, and railways carry arts and commodities from one land to another.

Not while man does his business with Ariel and waves his magic wand, Caliban is never far from the foreground. The physical world will ever have the last word. The plans of engineers can never be made contingent upon water flowing up hill. Society, in the last analysis, must ever rest upon mother earth, and that earth is equally ready to rend and to kill as to produce luxuriously. Disorders, miseries and hardships are in the world, and they compel man to be alert, inventive and industrious. Robinson Crusoe's man Friday asked: "Why did not God kill the devil?" and Crusoe pondered in that deep sea. But his pondering did not remove the evil and untoward forces. Slowly and painfully man learns what life means, and at what price progress is purchased. And he finds it worth while. What is too simple is soon monotonous.

NEWSPAPER HEADLINES

Newspaper headlines are perhaps more widely read than anything else in print. They have a potent influence upon speech, and Professor Lowes of Washington, in a letter to the New York Post, shows that they are fearfully and wonderfully constructed. He has made a collection and he quotes some of them in this letter. Many of them offer exercise in ingenuity. For example: "To Pen for Killing Over One Cent." The paragraph thus headed contains an account of a sentence to the penitentiary imposed for a killing in a dispute over the possession of one cent. Through the labyrinth of the following one may wonder at will: "Judge Orders Man Sing Wife Said She Saw in Hall Brought In." There may be some meaning in "Men Nearly Blind Suffer Girl Favors," but the meaning of this one remains greatly dark: "See No House Row Harm; Mayor Says Body Has No Important Legislation Control Split Delay."

The mysterious heading: "Rape Tear-Making Rites," heads an account of a clergyman's statement that "the old idea of having the funeral an intentionally tear-producing affair is out of date." "Gripes Convict Toll Poster," is headline English for "tackles the problem of convict labor." "Light Clerks Macbeth Supers" is the terse summary of a paragraph recounting how the clerks of a certain light and power company were employed as supernumeraries in a performance of "Macbeth." One of the greatest triumphs is: "Large Plymouth Rock Hen Lays Toy Egg On Drop In Market Prices." It is in a rival paper that the following gem appears: "Angry At Being Shot, Shoots Beasts Shooter." The headline "Gun Thought Empty Discharges, Striking Gun-Bearer In Van," is not designed to convey anatomical information, but merely to indicate that the "shooter" was walking ahead of the "shooter." Chaste elegance in style is not lacking: "Bible Revisionists Combing Europe," and "Jug of Wine, Can of Paint and Thou Leads to Jail," are examples.

CALLING A SPADE A SPADE

Miss Ames C. East, whose vigorous and clear-cut English, enterprise, and passion for the truth, have given her a wide following among the Canadian readers, went to British Columbia recently for Toronto Saturday Night, on a somewhat delicate mission. Her assignment was to investigate and report upon British Columbia's labor and oriental problems. First our Pacific province was shaken by questions arising from an influx of Hindu and Japanese laborers, the question being complicated by the fact that the newcomers from India were subjects of King George. Subsequently the Industrial Workers of the World invaded British Columbia, greatly disturbing labor conditions there, as they did some months ago in Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Eastern Canada is interested in these questions, because some day the difficulties which confront British Columbia may confront the other provinces. Also, representatives of the Hindus and of the I. W. W. have been active in Eastern Canada, and as a result there has been in Ontario and elsewhere an inclination to "pass resolutions, giving advice to British Columbia as to its dealings with oriental labor and labor agitators from the United States and other countries. A few sentences from the report written by Miss East, now published in booklet form by Saturday Night, will suffice to indicate at once the complicated nature of the task she essayed and the interest it holds for the future. She writes, in part:

"We feel sure that Japanese immigration is limited to 300 a year. It is not so limited by treaty. It is only so limited by the country of Japan. You read the treaty, and you will see that the beautiful result of having no diplomatic understanding the Japanese language among ourselves, Japan will never go to war over her coolie laborers. She has no taint of what we proudly call democracy; no taint of individualism. Every individual in Japan exists for the good of the Empire."

But if the Empire wants to win a war, could she fail to find it in that limitation by treaty? That's why, though M. C. needs labor, needs it desperately, she hesitates about throwing open her doors to the little Japs. And now where are we as to the great need of labor in B. C.?

The Pacific Province must have labor, or see the progress that should be hers go to Washington and Oregon and California. There is practically no white Canadian labor to be had for love or money in B. C. today.

"Well, then," say the fruit growers, "let the Chinese who don't want to colonize or to stay, in for a limited time for limited occupations."

"Do you think we will stand that discrimination against British subjects?" demands the Hindu.

"We do not care whether you stand it or not," says B. C. "You have to stand the educational test in South Africa."

"Would B. C. welcome Oriental labor if it could get it without Oriental vices?" I asked. "It seems to me with commerce opening up with Asia, we all afford to lift the three biggest nations of the world."

"You pass strict enough laws against Oriental vices, against sedition and blackmail and secret tools and traffic in law," said one thoroughly conversant with the situation, "and you erect a ten barred gate."

Let me repeat—these are not my views. They are the views of those out on the spot up against the real thing, where an ounce of fact is worth a ton of platitudinous theory; where one grain of common sense is worth a bushel of ideals.

And what about the I. W. W.? Are they to be barred out, too? Shall we run them out with the policeman's bat and the constable's gun; or—there is no middle way? Have we met them on their own terms? Have we tried to make them men and women, instead of a bomb-fighter? Have we taught them that the flag is not a rag, but an emblem of enfolding justice, to them as to us? I want you to nail down in your memory one point—the I. W. W. have only arisen to power in the United States since the court began granting injunctions to capital against labor, and refusing injunctions to labor against capital. Can we in Canada stop the perjuries and the forgeries and the ballot thefts and the inside ring? Or shall we see our civilization, too, ground to pieces between the upper and the nether millstones of legalized loot and lawless theft?

AM I MY BROTHER'S KEEPER? That is the whole pith of the labor question in Canada today.

Much that Miss East was compelled to write as an investigator will make unpleasant reading for Canadians; but it is quite possible that Canadians have been too much disposed to brush aside grave domestic problems by refusing to read the unpleasant facts which would equip them for the work of dealing intelligently with questions which must be faced if untold national evils are to be modified or avoided. One clear lesson to be had from Miss East's mission is that Eastern Canada, until it has really studied the situation in British Columbia, should hesitate to express official opinions as to what that province should do.

UNCERTAIN SIEGES

The Turks have always been noted for the courage they displayed behind entrenched positions, and their persistence in holding Adrianople is only in keeping with their former history. Months ago we were assured that the town was ready to fall into the hands of the Allies, but the siege goes on. Before it falls, it may cost the Allies many men, as it has already cost them much money.

In the history of sieges the human element is always prominent. An example of this is found in the defence of Quillebeuf, which was defended by Hellegarde in the days of Henry IV. of France. Before the garrison had well started in the work of building defences, the place was assaulted by 5,000 soldiers. Hellegarde had in his defence 115 soldiers, forty-five gentlemen, and a few inhabitants. He had ammunition, but not adequate provisions. With these forces and a line of defence a league in length, he sustained a siege, both of an assault the seventeenth day, and was relieved immediately afterwards. The relieving forces were astonished to find that he had been defending not a fortified town, but a village, with a ditch which, in the places where it had been begun, was not more than four feet wide and deep.

Though engineers in all ages have eagerly sought for strength and refinements of strength in fortifications, the fact remains that the best defences are recorded in history were little to the builders' art. The very weight of the odds, against them, sometimes calls out the best qualities of the defenders, and the man whom, at his

best is worth many times more than the ramparts behind which he fights.

Much depends on the governor; Osman Pasha at Plevna, Fenwick Williams at Kara, are cases where the event turned absolutely on the personal qualities of the governor. A case of the opposite kind occurred in the English Civil War. In 1645 the young governor of the royal post at Bletchington House was entertaining a party of ladies from Oxford, when Cromwell appeared and summoned him to surrender. The attacking force had no firearms more powerful than a carbine, but the governor, overawed by Cromwell's personality, yielded. Charles I., who was usually merciful to his officers, caused this governor to be shot.

The history of siege warfare has more in it of human interest than any other branch of military history. It is full of the personal element, of the nobility of human endurance and of dramatic surprises. Clive at Arcot, with four officers, 120 Europeans and 200 Sepoys, with two 18-pounders and eight lighter guns, held the fort against 150 Europeans and 10,000 native troops. "The fort," says Orme, "seemed little capable of sustaining the impending siege. The extent was more than a mile in circumference. The walls were in many places ruinous; the ramparts too narrow to admit the firing of artillery; the parapet low and slightly built; several of the towers were decayed, and none of them capable of receiving more than one piece of cannon; the ditch was in some places fordable in other dry and in some choked up." These feeble ramparts were commanded almost everywhere by the enemy's musketry from the houses of the city outside the fort, so that the defenders were hardly able to show themselves without being hit, and much loss was suffered in this way. Yet with his tiny garrison, which numbered about one man for every seven yards of enclosure, Clive sustained a siege of fifty days; and with a really severe assault upon two large open breaches, which was repulsed, and after which the enemy hastily decamped.

Adrianople is not a large city and it is only an indifferently strong fortress, but the Bulgarians must be doing a good deal of anxious mental arithmetic to determine how long it is likely to endure the strain of investment and starvation. It is quite possible that the place may fall after its continued endurance and hard privations, without an assault and even without a heavy bombardment, but the long drawn war is proving very costly to the Allies. They have been fined and penalized by a long armistice through Turkish delays, and this armistice was hardly less costly than the war itself.

MONK AND THE "EMERGENCY"

As the facts come out they argue strongly against Mr. Borden and his "emergency." In the House of Commons Wednesday there was an additional disclosure calculated to discredit the Conservative scheme. The British Admiralty memorandum, on which Mr. Borden asserted that he based his naval policy, was issued from Downing Street on October 25, 1912, and it could not have reached Ottawa before November 2, or 3, at the earliest. The House was given to understand that Hon. Mr. Monk resigned after the Admiralty memorandum reached Ottawa; but, as Hon. Mr. Murphy showed yesterday, Mr. Monk's letter of resignation was dated at Ottawa, October 18, that is, exactly one week before the Admiralty letter left Downing Street.

These facts indicate that Mr. Monk resigned because he knew that the Borden government had decided upon a so-called emergency contribution of \$35,000,000 long before the Admiralty memorandum was issued. Premier Borden declared that his policy had been decided upon as a result of the Admiralty memorandum, but in Mr. Monk's letter, written a week before the memorandum was prepared, he wrote that he could not concur in the "decision" reached at the cabinet meeting yesterday that make an emergency contribution of \$35,000,000 for three Dreadnoughts.

More and more the public is left in the dark as to the date at which Mr. Borden decided that an "emergency" existed. He saw no emergency in 1908, when he voted, with all his principal colleagues, for the resolution which was the basis of the Laurier naval bill.

He saw no emergency when, long after that date, in London, and in Halifax, he declared as definitely as possible for the construction of a Canadian navy, to be built, manned, and maintained by this self-governing portion of the British Empire.

At some later date Mr. Borden seems to have been captured by the extreme Imperialist wing of the Unionist party, and then he perceived an emergency, although Great Britain's relations with Germany, and with all the leading powers, were noticeably more cordial than they had been for some time, and certainly much more friendly than they were two years previous when Mr. Borden spoke so strongly in favor of building a Canadian navy by the skill and out of the material to be found in this country.

The British government or the Admiralty that they have changed their minds." Australia is building its own fleet, and the Australian government will control that fleet absolutely, even in time of war, until the government of the Commonwealth formally places it under Imperial control. Hon. Mr. Pearce expresses the view that it would be well if Australia, Canada and New Zealand should come to an agreement as to the defense of Imperial interests in the Pacific, and he repeats the well known fact that the Australian plan for a fleet built, owned and controlled by the Commonwealth, has had the definite approval of the Admiralty and the British government.

Canadians will regard it as somewhat strange that what is proper in the case of Australia should be dangerous and disloyal in the case of Canada. They will note, also, that the tone of discussion in Australia is pitched in a much more reasonable key than it is in Canada, where the Conservative party deems it necessary to conjure up imaginary dangers, and to talk wildly of disloyalty, in an effort to bolster up a political navy policy, which the country at large regards as unsound.

LIARS AND THE INCOME TAX

Gladstone's dictum that an income tax made a nation of liars, and that nothing done more to demoralize and corrupt the people, may not be easily challenged, but an observer who has been in Canada, declared (in his haste) that all men were liars whether taxed or not, so most politicians are ready to run the risk of the corrupt influence and impose the tax.

The recent adoption of the income tax amendment to the United States constitution is the only instance in the course of more than a century in which the constitution has been altered in any matter of real moment, under normal circumstances, and in accordance with the methods laid down by its framers. It has been changed in spirit though not in form by judicial interpretation, for more than once Americans found it necessary to bend their organic act of government to avoid the necessity of breaking it; but this is the first time that the constitution has been amended in any vital particular, in the last eleven decades, without the shock of war.

This amendment clears away a first class obstacle in the path of the Democrats. The difficulty in the past with any proposal for the serious lowering of the tariff wall was the question of revenue. This is the crucial question that has confronted the country since the day of Cleveland. This amendment to the constitution removes the difficulty. The way is prepared for a real lowering of the tariff. Any loss of revenue that may be feared as a consequence can be met by an income tax.

Nearly all European countries impose an income tax as a means of revenue. Britain was the first country to impose this tax. It was imposed first during the Napoleonic wars by Pitt. Later, when the Corn Laws were repealed, the revenue lost had to be made up in some way, and Peel introduced a bill on the income tax, and defended it in a speech that lasted three and one-half hours. It was carried amidst tremendous applause by a vote of 235 against 140. This tax has been a favorite one with Chancellors of the Exchequer ever since. The law has been changed constantly to make it more equitable to new conditions. It continually has increased in popularity, and has proved that the wealth of the middle classes increases absolutely and relatively more rapidly than that of the rich, and also that in times of financial or industrial depression the larger incomes suffer proportionately more and are reduced more rapidly in number than the smaller.

The income tax is perhaps as equitable as any tax generally is. It is supposed to tax large wealth heavily, small wealth lightly, and least wealth not at all. It is only proposed to tax incomes of more than \$5,000. The tax will be economical because it is self-assessed; the schedules prepared enable each man to ascertain how much he has to pay, and he can send in the amount at the proper time; so that practically no expense need be incurred in collecting. Of course there will be attempts to evade it, and it will "increase the number of liars." But it has been doing this continually when imposed by the state; it will not have a stronger tendency to do so when imposed by the nation. France has overcome that difficulty by punishing misstatements through quinquennially the tax and making retroactive after five years. It is a remarkable example of human skill in evasion that when this tax which was imposed during the American Civil War, and was continued for some years afterwards, was estimated to cost the government some \$200,000,000 people out of a total of \$7,000,000,000 acknowledged the receipt of taxable incomes.

NOTE AND COMMENT

Max Nordau, the eminent art critic and scientist, says that this is the era of the thin woman. "All persons who inspire respect are thin," he says.—Montreal Herald.

What is this man Nordau trying to do—start a riot?

Is Mr. Borden's "emergency" contribution to be followed by others during the twenty-five or fifty years that he says it will take to build up an efficient naval organization in Canada—Toronto Globe.

That's the risk we take if we start wrong.

Woodrow Wilson isn't at all particular. He is going to begin the special session of Congress on April 1. This announcement caused a thin trickle from the ranks of the standpatters for a moment; but on second thought they realized that this thing isn't going to be any joke.

Mr. Fleming's speech to the Valley railway delegates Tuesday indicates a determination not to reopen the question of route. If there is to be no change, the next thing is to press for speed in beginning the difficult bridges the company can reach St. John.

The duty on cement, and the great amount of water in cement stock, combine to draw this comment from the Montreal Witness:

"It is pushing up the rents in our cities in a way that we all can feel. The payment of interest on watered stock is its great purpose. There were times when the barons rode out of their castles at the head of their marauding troops and made direct levies by force on the people. To-day it is done in a more skillful and less apparent way."

The witness is merely repeating a well known fact. Sir Sanford Fleming proved it up to the hilt.

In the midst of wars and rumors of wars—if one may judge by the American newspapers—the people of the United States still find time to follow with attentive eyes the progress and conversation of Mr. "Gunboat" Smith, who has forsaken the sun-warmed slopes of California for the inclement East where he is presently to encounter Mr. "Bombardier" Wells. This getting together professionally of the Bombardier and the Gunboat, were we to be guided by their titles alone, would suggest a combat between a mountain lion and a whale, but as a matter of fact they are both stout land animals, representing for the moment something approaching the height of skill in British and American fighters. Mr. Wells is reputed a man of power and cunning with his hands, but it is to be noted that Mr. Smith proclaims almost immediately his intention to win. At least that is the inference a layman draws from his announcement that he has carried from California a certain present which he will hand to the Bombardier when they meet. That which he has in store for the Briton Mr. "Gunboat" Smith describes in his own cryptic way as "the sleep wallop." Meaning the harsh but significant tendency of the betting odds suggests that Mr. Smith is more likely to take than to give.

MANY BILLS INTRODUCED IN LOCAL HOUSE

Fredericton, N. B., Feb. 26.—The house met at 3 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. McLeod submitted a statement of the consolidated revenue account to Feb. 12 inclusive.

Mr. Baxter introduced a bill to amend the union act of the city of St. John and Portland.

Mr. Lockhart introduced a bill for the better prevention of conflagrations in the city of St. John.

Hon. Mr. Fleming introduced a bill to confirm certain grants to the commission of the Transcontinental railway. He said that it was necessary that grants made by the crown of a right of way throughout the province to the Transcontinental railway commissioners, should be confirmed by an act of the legislature.

Mr. Lockhart presented the petition of the municipality of the city and county of St. John to fix the assessment of Edward Partington Pulp & Paper Co., Ltd.

Mr. Baxter, on behalf of Mr. Slipp, presented a petition in favor of a bill to incorporate the St. Leonard Water Co.

Mr. Dugal presented a petition in favor of a bill relating to the town of Edmundston.

Mr. Humphrey, on behalf of Mr. Dickson (Albert), presented a petition of the New Brunswick Shales Co. in favor of a bill respecting the Albertville, Ollite & Canal Coal Co.

Mr. Baxter introduced a bill relating to the water supply of St. John city and to authorize the city of St. John to supply water within a portion of Simonds parish, St. John county.

Mr. Wilson introduced a bill relating to the sale of property belonging to the city of St. John.

Mr. Tilley introduced a bill to incorporate the Riverview Golf & Country Club.

Hon. Mr. Murray introduced a bill to enable the trustees of School District No. 2, Westfield, to sell certain lands.

Hon. Mr. McLeod introduced a bill respecting the Dominion Trust Co.

Mr. Baxter introduced a bill to amend the act to authorize the rector and church wardens of Trinity church, St. John, to sell part of their real estate.

Hon. Mr. Morrisey introduced a bill to confirm an agreement made between the crown and St. John Railway Company.

Mr. White introduced bills to enable the Grand Falls to grant certain exemptions from taxation and to issue debentures for the installation of an electric lighting system.

Mr. Tilley said that the bonds of the company had been sold and proceeds deposited with a trust company. The sale had been made at 93-3/4 per cent., and as the safekeeping had been lived up to, he proposed an amendment that the amount to be deposited with the trust company should not be less than 95 per cent. of the par value of the bonds.

The bill was agreed to as amended.

The house went into committee with Mr. Stewart (Northumberland) in the chair, and agreed to bills to amend the act to authorize the town council of Millville to fix a value on Canadian Cottons Limited, with amendments.

The bill to amend the Lancaster sewerage act was then considered.

Mr. Tilley said that under the provisions of the bill, the city of St. John was relieved of any liability for any damage which might be caused by reason of inability of the sewers to carry off sewage and drainage. He felt that this was an attempt to legislate against the individual property owner in favor of the city of St. John.

Mr. Baxter said that under the provisions of the act there was authority granted to practically extend the sewers of the city in the parish of Lancaster. No liability was removed from the sewerage authority.

Mr. Fleming said that the bill relating to the sale of property belonging to the city of St. John was agreed to.

The house went into committee with Mr. Humphrey in the chair and agreed to bills to establish a salvage corps and to police in the city of Fredericton, and to authorize the city of Fredericton to issue debentures, also to bills to fix a valuation for assessment purposes, in the city of Fredericton, and to authorize the McLeelan Shoe Pack Co., Ltd., with amendments.

The house adjourned at 5:35.

Public Accounts Committee.
Fredericton, N. B., Feb. 26.—The first sign of real work in the legislature was given this morning when the municipal, agricultural and public accounts committees met. Their sessions were brief but harmonious. This applied particularly to that of the public accounts.

Mr. Fisher, who is chairman and Assistant Clerk Dibble is secretary. The new members are White of Carleton, Black of Westmorland and Pelletier of Madawaska. Much smoothness marked the meeting this morning. There were no bickerings or interjections and page after page of the auditor's report was turned down as in low tones Mr. Jones of Carleton moved that pages 50 and 51, just a slender interest, be referred to the committee. Mr. Black, Premier Fleming's colleague, said the succession duties should go to the premier, whose salary was too small for the work he had to do. This was agreed to by Mr. Black but the premier was not a lawyer and the collection of the succession duties was not the work of a layman. Mr. Black said the commission from the collection of the succession duties, brought in by the general auditor, was not too much, he hastened to add. Mr. Jones, acquiescing, said there was a great deal of work in connection with the collection of these duties.

Referring to page 138 it was found that the attorney-general was paid \$172.02 for collecting the duties.

This with payments from other sources as a member of the house and executive traveling expenses, etc., makes a total payment of \$5,485.82 to him during the year.

James Robinson of Millerton, R. Taylor and H. M. Hopper, St. John, and Mathew Lodge of Moncton are here.

At this morning's session of the committee of agriculture Messrs. Daigle and Daigle dairy chief superintendents addressed the committee. They urged contests and the appointment of a man to oversee proper feeding of cattle, and the spending of money for better drainage.

They unanimously passed a resolution that the agriculture department should render all reasonable assistance for having a performance test and that excellent means for such education would be recommended that an act be made for teaching in the normal school.

The resolution condemned the importation of so much of foodstuffs annually and recommended the department to devote time and money to the study of the committee on municipalities took up consideration of an act relating to the sale of property belonging to St. John and an act to amend an act authorizing the Milltown council to fix the valuation of the Canadian Cottons Ltd for purpose of assessment.

Both bills were recommended.

TO BUILD OR BUY RAILWAYS AT WILL

(Continued from page 3.)

policy but his policy which makes for the gentlemen opposite," continued the sturdy Britisher, "who are breaking up the British empire, or would do so if permitted to carry out their ill-judged policy."

Dr. Clark said he had been asked how he, as a Britisher, could support reciprocity and oppose a contribution. "My speaker," it is because I am a Britisher that I believe in trading freely wherever I can find profit and it is because I am a Britisher that I believe in defending my own shores. These are two things which British and Britishers have always done. When the parent gives a good example the child cannot do better than to follow it. I believe in the British lion and I believe in the British lion cub, but I do not believe in breeding jackals and that is why I am opposed to the naval policy of Premier Borden and that is why I support the naval policy of Sir Wilfrid Laurier."

Dr. Clark concluded amid prolonged Liberal cheers.

AN AWFUL BLOW.

"Yes," said Slithers, "Mackley was my dearest friend, and I shall never cease to mourn his death. It was a terrible blow from which I shall never recover."

"Why—er—ahem!—why, yes, I did; but—"

Here Slithers subsided into a deep and uncomfortable silence.—Harper's Weekly.

ABE MARTIN

Whereas, the Canada Eastern Railway Co. was originally chartered by the Legislature of New Brunswick, and the said railway was constructed and operated by the said company, and the said company was incorporated under the laws of the said province, and the said company was authorized by the said Legislature to construct and operate a railway from Blackville to Chatham, and the said company was authorized by the said Legislature to construct and operate a railway from Chatham to Blackville