

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 21, 1901.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH.
An eight-page paper and is published every Wednesday and Saturday at \$1.00 a year, in advance, by the Telegraph Publishing Company, of St. John, a company incorporated by act of the legislature of New Brunswick.

ADVERTISING RATES.
Ordinary commercial advertisements taking the run of the paper: Each insertion \$1.00 per inch.

Advertisements of Wants, For Sales, etc., 50 cents for insertion of six lines or less.

Notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths 25 cents for each insertion.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Owing to the considerable number of complaints as to the misarrangement of letters alleged to contain money remitted to this office we have to request our subscribers and agents when sending money for the Telegraph to do so by post office order or registered letter, in which case the remittance will be at our risk.

In remitting by checks or post office orders our patrons will please make them payable to the Telegraph Publishing Company.

All letters for the business office of this paper should be addressed to the Telegraph Publishing Company, St. John; and all correspondence for the editorial department should be sent to the Editor of the Telegraph, St. John.

FACTS FOR SUBSCRIBERS.
Without exception, names of new subscribers will not be entered until the money is received.

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Be brief.

Write plainly and take special pains with names.

Write on one side of your paper only.

Attach your name and address to your communication as an evidence of good faith.

THIS PAPER HAS THE LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

AUTHORIZED AGENTS.

The following agents are authorized to receive and collect for the Semi-Weekly Telegraph, viz.:

WM. SOMERVILLE,

W.A. FERRIS.

Subscribers are asked to pay their subscriptions to the agents when they call.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph

ST. JOHN, N. B. AUGUST 21, 1901.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

As a great number of our subscribers are interested in the Census Guessing Competition, for which prizes were offered to the persons coming nearest to the correct enumeration of the population of the Dominion of Canada, as given out by the Minister of Agriculture from the results of the recent census, we wish to advise the readers of THE TELEGRAPH that no announcement had yet been made by the Minister of Agriculture.

As soon as the Hon. Mr. Fisher has made the official statement showing the results of the Census, the coupons will be sorted out by the Press Publishing Association of Detroit, and the announcement made of the prize winners in the SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH for several issues, so that all may know who the successful competitors were.

This will save our readers and ourselves any trouble of correspondence in regard to the competition.

THE TELEGRAPH PUBLISHING CO.

THE CENSUS RETURNS.

The Telegraph's announcement of the probable population of Canada has been confirmed by the official bulletin, which places the number of Canada's inhabitants at 5,338,883, an increase of 505,044, or about ten and half per cent. in the past decade. The figures are somewhat disappointing, and clearly show the necessity for the active immigration efforts which have been put forward in the past three or four years. With a vast country of splendid possibilities, it is necessary for its proper development that agriculturalists should be induced to leave the fields of the older countries to till the fertile acres of our country. That is the primal necessity, for the farmers of Canada are the greatest wealth producers inasmuch as they provide for the maintenance of the majority of our industries. The outlook has certainly been more hopeful in the past few years and we believe that if the same immigration is continued the next census will make a brighter story. The percentage is as follows: Territories 122, British Columbia 94, Manitoba 62, Quebec 9, New Brunswick 35, Ontario 25, Nova Scotia 2, while Prince Edward Island shows a decrease of 5.3 per cent.

The increase in the towns and cities has been out of proportion with the gain of population in the farming districts, even of the western country, while in many portions of the older settled parts of Canada there has been no increase, and in some cases serious losses in the rural districts. This is not a question which can divide political parties, as it concerns both equally, the time covered by the last census being equally divided between the terms of Conservative and Liberal administrations. It is idle to make it a party

question, particularly as the past five years has shown a great improvement in population gains as well as in every other indication of national prosperity. In the same country to discuss the question whether the last census was padded, unless some distinct proof of the statement can be adduced by the census office. The question of practical importance is the carrying forward of agricultural and industrial development which will induce the laborers of the old world to come to us in greater numbers, and what is still of greater moment, will keep our own people from emigrating to the larger centres to the south of us. There are many interesting features of the census which are deserving of serious consideration, and when the fuller returns are to hand they will be discussed.

RELATIVE BURDENS.

Our Conservative friends are disposed to very much exaggerate the extent and comparative weight of the burdens which fall upon the Canadian taxpayer. Of course, the object they have in view in thus misrepresenting the situation is apparent, but there is really no foundation for the assumption that Canadians are either unduly oppressed in this regard, or that they are taxed more than the people of other countries. In fact, it is only when the matter is looked into with something like analytical care that the relative lightness of taxation in Canada is made clear.

For example, there are many countries in Europe upon whose people onerous obligations are cast, and we need look no further than across the line to feel the easy nature of our own load by observing the weight of our neighbors. The analogy may not be very close, but it is worth noting that in New York city the purely local tax amounts to \$28 per head, based on an annual expenditure very much larger than that made by the Dominion. There are many other large cities which have an outlay far beyond the federal expenditure of Canada.

London, England, with a population less than that of Canada, expends \$38,000,000 annually; Paris, with its 2,240,000 of people has a tax bill of \$66,000,000; while Greater New York, with its 3,536,517 inhabitants lays out \$98,000,000. The per capita outlay, comparing what is municipal in one case with what is national in ours, would be as follows:

London.....\$11.05
Paris.....28.90
New York.....28.00
Canada.....9.80

This comparison is favorable to the view that we are not so heavily burdened as others, although it has reference to different forms of taxation.

It is also worth observing that the bonded debt of New York city is larger than the net debt of Canada, and that it is growing more rapidly than ours. In 1897 the debt of New York was \$212,923,116; while last year it had risen to \$280,885,762. Our debt has not increased more than \$7,000,000 in five years, as compared with an increase of \$38,000,000 in three years in the case of New York. There is comfort to us as a people in these facts, however much they may differ from the views of our Tory friends.

THE TUBERCULOSIS QUESTION.

An erroneous impression appears to prevail among some people regarding Professor Koch's statement before the Tuberculosis Congress. Dr. Koch did not say that the bacillus is the cause of tuberculosis. He said that it is a necessary condition, but not a sufficient one. He did not say that it is the only cause, but that it is a necessary condition. He did not say that it is the only cause, but that it is a necessary condition. He did not say that it is the only cause, but that it is a necessary condition.

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reports, 30 per cent. of all the cattle of the United Kingdom were afflicted with tuberculosis, yet, notwithstanding this fact the birth rate showed a marked increase over the death rate. The data, however, which he employed was found in the hospitals of Berlin. In one hospital in that city it was found that there had been only ten cases of primary intestinal tuberculosis in five years; while in another only sixteen cases were found in the course of over 3,000 post mortem examinations of tuberculous patients. As bovine tuberculosis is common in Berlin and Germany—the bacillus being found in the milk and butter—it is quite probable that these patients had been fed on the milk and meat of hundreds of tuberculous cattle and yet they apparently escaped infection. The cases which had been discovered could easily be accounted for on the assumption of indirect infection, by the introduction of the bacilli into the intestines through contact of the food with particles of sputum in the m-u-th.

The criticism of the theory at the congress was not very strong. There were a number of statements made regarding the frequency of intestinal tuberculosis in children, but when probed, it was found that in many instances no scientific investigation had been made to prove that other sources of infection—other than bovine—had been shut out. Professor Koch has shown how by care his theory can be proved or disproved. If primary intestinal tuberculosis is no more frequent than has been discovered in Berlin, among tuberculous patients, then that would go a long way to prove Koch's theory. On the other hand if this disease is frequently found in children fed on milk then the theory would go by the board. Until the theory is proved, beyond a doubt, it is well to use every precaution and assume that bovine tuberculosis is transmitted to human beings. One more point should not be overlooked, and that is the fact that if Koch's theory should prove correct the sterilization of milk and food is still necessary for other disease germs frequently exist in these media—such as typhoid and diphtheria.

THE METRIC SYSTEM.

Napoleon once sneeringly referred to the British as "nation of shopkeepers." The metric has lost its sting and has passed into common parlance as a compliment to Anglo-Saxon progressiveness in business methods. There are two matters, however in which the British have not yet shown their business shrewdness. The first is the abolition of the antiquated system of currency calculated by pounds, shillings and pence, and the adoption of the decimal currency computed by dollars and cents. Canadians who have been educated in the business advantages of the latter can scarcely comprehend why there should be the least hesitation in adopting it and by so doing simplifying business matters. The other reform is the adoption of the decimal system of weights and measures commonly known as the metric system.

Under our present complicated method of computing weights and measures, it has become necessary to introduce costly labor devices such as self-calculating scales, for the various tables of Troy weight, avoirdupois weight, apothecaries weight or the still more intricate table of peches, poles and furlongs. On the other hand a metric or decimal system of weight and measures is simply a multiplication of the lowest system of measurement, that it is almost impossible to forget once it has been learned. Sooner or later it will be the universal system, and as a matter of fact at the present time all the great nations have adopted it excepting the British Empire, the United States and Russia, and the latter has now decided to adopt it. That means that forty-four nations with a population of four hundred and eighty-five millions are using it, and when Russia makes the change these figures will be immensely augmented. The British Chambers of Commerce have persistently recommended the adoption of the metric system, and the sooner it is the decimal currency are the universal rule in the British Empire the better for Imperial commercial interests. There is no possible excuse for delay for every argument is in favor of systems which a-l-t-e-r experience has proven to be enormous labor saving devices. Canada might with advantage lead the way for the rest of the Empire in the adoption of the metric system as it has already done in the change to the decimal currency, for our people are perhaps less conservative than those in the home land.

THE PHILIPPINE RELAPSE.

Our brethren of the quill across the border have been making fun for the past year at the British delay in suppressing the Boer war. Latterly these newspaper wits have taken on the garb of superiority, and have insisted on the world watching the rapid suppression of the Philippine guerilla warfare. This, of course, was intended to show the superiority of the American over the British forces in coping with their foes. But the jingoes spoke too quickly. Aguinaldo has been up to his old tricks again, doesn't want to be naturalized, refuses to advise any more insurgents to surrender, and adds insult to injury, signs his latest

manifesto "the prisoner of the Malacan." What a trouble is we can only guess, for we had received such positive assurances from Aguinaldo via the American newspapers that he had become "sensible" and was, like a "brave man," accepting the inevitable, that his release was unexpected. Probably supplies stopped and Aggy refused to grind out the tune to order until he got his salary in advance. It certainly looks as though the entire Philippine aggregation had refused a curtain call until the box office showed the great human indulgence in coin of the realm—whatever that may signify in Philippine circles. For in addition to Aguinaldo's fall from grace, Paterno, "the brain of the insurrection," and founder of the Federal party, which was to co-operate with the Americans in convincing the savages of Luzon of the advantages of wooden nutmegs over the national product of the Myristica fragrans, has thrown up his job and gone on strike for higher wages. Paterno is now organizing another party, yelp National, and has made up a full grown platform of national independence, with Aguinaldo for president. The national coat of arms has not yet been selected, and we would therefore suggest a fox dormant, winking left optic, with paw outstretched, surmounted by gold dollars. For a motto none could be more suitable than "Mulum in parvo"—which literally translated means: "There is beg money in small insurrections." But our American friends should not be disheartened. Guerilla warfare is a hard thing to end unless congress votes enough money to buy up the whole force. No doubt, our cousins across the border realize by this time that they have plenty of do to hoe their own watermelon patch in the Philippines without bothering with the odd chores around our South African farm.

THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

In a letter sent us for publication which appears in this issue, the question of the advisability of extending the school holidays until after Labor Day is decided in the negative. The reasons given by the writer seem to us well considered. Formerly the summer holidays in St. John for the children at the public schools were but four weeks in extent, while only every other Saturday was free from school duties. Later on every Saturday was made a holiday and the summer vacation was extended to six weeks. A movement for a longer summer vacation resulted in an extension to eight weeks in city schools and six weeks to those in the country districts. We have always been of the opinion that a mistake was made in the enlargement of the time of summer vacation, so far as it applies to St. John, but that the holiday term in country school districts should have been made two months or even more. Our reasons for this opinion are suggested by the writer of the letter. With a cool climate and no proper recreation for the children of the public schools to keep the city children off the streets, the children are better off at school, while the parents are relieved of the worry and necessity of keeping mischief away from the idle hands. In the country it is a different story. There, each child in the haying and harvesting seasons, has a distinct value to the parent who can keep the little hands employed to advantage in healthy outdoor work. As a matter of fact in country districts none but the smaller children are permitted to return to school until the rush of harvesting is over, so that teachers in those schools are met at the re-opening of the fall term with sparely filled benches and are under the necessity of repeating the school work later on for the benefit of the children who in large numbers attend the school when the rush of farm work is over.

If there is to be any change in the summer vacation it would seem to us advisable to confine the extension to the country school districts where it would, we are satisfied, meet with the approval of the majority of the ratepayers.

THE I. C. R. AND C. P. R.

The people of St. John will be disposed to accept with thankfulness the statement which has been given out that all existing differences between the Intercolonial and Canadian Pacific have been adjusted. While causes of friction prevailed there was a menace to the business interests of this port which created uncertainty and anxiety. There was, however, an unmistakable desire on the part of the numbers of St. John to maintain a neutral attitude between the parties, although when the dispute was made a controlling factor in the election contest of November last the preponderance of sympathy was clearly on the side of the minister of ways. There were probably reasons for this apart from the merits of the controversy, and the vote was in no sense intended to be a declaration of hostility to the Canadian Pacific.

No useful or helpful purpose can be served by a revival of the matter now. If the Intercolonial and the Canadian Pacific have come to a mutually satisfactory understanding the part of prudence is to let bygones be bygones. In the harmonious co-operation of these two great lines of our winter port business we are all too deeply concerned to risk the reopening of old sores. It is manifest that both could not win in the struggle, and the deepest satisfaction will be felt in the fact that a compromise has been amicably reached.

To this feeling will be joined the hope that nothing may occur in the future—no foolish taunting by the friends of either side as to the nature of the compromise—to disturb the settlement arrived at.

Suit Cases, Bags and Trunks.
Travellers' requisites—Trunks, Bags and Suit Cases are in most demand at this time. The buying can be done to best advantage here.

