The Standard



Published by The Standard Limited, 82 Prince William Street, St. John, Canada.

MANAGING DIRECTOR-Jas. H. Crocket.

SUBSCRIPTION.

Morning Edition, By Carrier, per year, \$5.00 Weekly Edition, by Mail, per year, ... 1.00 Weekly Edition to United States ... 1.52 Single Copies Two Cents,

TELEPHONE CALLS: Business Office Main 1722 Editorial and News Main 1746

tions in England alone, it will reduce the Government majority by 180, leaving the ministers with a safe margin of about 150, including Labor and Home Rule members. Scotland, Ireland and Wales, are not likely to reduce the majority by more than ten or fifteen. A massuch legislation before itself adopting the method. jority less than 160 will leave the Government more or less under the control of the Irish Nationalist party.

policy just but in cell likes the control of the first National and a decident of the present of the meaning of the first National and a control of the present to be so doost that the August have present to the so doost that the August have present to be so doost that the August have present to be so doost that the August have present the August have present to be so doost that the August have present to be so doost that the August have present to be so doost that the August have present to be so doost that the August have present to be so doost that the August have present to the A dom. The place of Mr. Brodeur may be taken by Mr. Lemieux. He is not so adroit as the Minister of Marine, and is a good deal more loquacious. The advancement of Mr. Lemieux is likely to excite some jealousies among his compatriots, over whom he has less influence than Mr. Brodeur. At this moment the Marine Department is the most conspicuous in the cabinet. The head of it will be First Lord of the Canadian Admirativ, and the patronage, already so large as to have

inet. The head of it will be First Lord of the Canadian Admiraity, and the patronage, already so large as to have loaded the department with scandal, is to be greatly increased. Mr. Lemieux is the kind of man to become glorious in such a position, as he is always sufficiently tonscious of his own greatness.

Much less likely would appear the appointment of Mr. Murphy to succeed Mr. Aylesworth as Minister of Justice. One would expect that Sir Wilfrid would rather go outside of parliament for a minister, as he did when he called Mr. Pugsley, Mr. Aylesworth, Mr. Graham and Mr. Mackeuzie King to his cabinet. But Mr. Guthrie, or Mr. Pardee, who have much more political experience than Mr. Murphy, and are held to be good lawyers, might fairly claim that another outside search is not necessary.

A QUESTION OF BUSINESS.

"If the local government will give the Dominion "Government specific information showing that the Valley road, of which the province is said to be ready to "guarantee the bonds, will be a railway up to modern "requirements and fit for heavy traffic, the Telegraph "has no doubt that the federal authorities will express "their readiness to lease the new line and operate it.

"It is time to talk business and get the Valley road "built. The requirements of the Dominion Government in this matter are simple and business like. If they "are met we have no doubt the road will come, and soon."

So says the Telegraph. This statement that the federal authorities would lease and operate the Valley road if it should be built up to modern requirements, is me which would come better from the Government itself than from the organ here.

Think of an election campaign in which returns will be coming in for a fortnight. That is the way in Great Britain. Simultaneous polling would condense the agony and make it more exquisite.

The only member of the Asquith administration who was defeated on Saturday was Sir Henry Norman, and he is not in the cabinet.

If the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first dozen elections are a good sign, Mr. Bruce has the first do

The federal government has been asked whether it will lease and operate the road.

The federal government has been told that if the federal government is willing to take up the proposition, a committee of the provincial ministry has been appointed to meet with the federal government, and settle the question of grades and standards with any other details.

This is talking business. But it is all on one side. The government at Ottawa has not even answered the question whether it is disposed to take over the road on any terms. Sir Wilfrid promised an answer nearly a year ago, but Mr. Pugsley seems to have induced the Premier to break the promise.

Premier to break the promise.

Now what does Mr. Pugsley want Mr. Hazen to do?
To engage engineers, survey the route, determine the
grader and curves, and settle the standard of the road
all by himself, without knowing whether the government
at Ottawa has any intention of taking over a road of

That is not business. It would be business for the federal government to say whether it is willing to operate the road provided details are satisfactory; then for representatives of the two governments to get togethed and settle the conditions. Mr. Hazen has his cabinet committee ready for this conference. That is business

THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA.

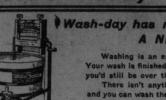
The Bank of Nova Scotia, which is among the oldest of the financial institutions of the Dominion, is also marked among them for the soundness and solidity of its position, as well as the sagacity and prudence of its management. The statement of this bank for 1909 is its seventy \$25,000,000, the eport. The amount of deposits, nearly \$35,000,000, the SAINT JOHN, MONDAY MORNING, JAN. 17, 1910.

FIRST ELECTION DAY IN ENGLAND.

Less than 100 of the 670 members of the British
House of Commons have been returned. The reports
indicate a Government net loss of 15 seats. Should this
rate of change continue through the whole of the elections in England alone, it will reduce the Government
that the financial statement is followed by the report of
two chartered accountants who have audited the ac-

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