

The Planet.

S. STEPHENSON - Proprietor.

Business Office 53
Editorial Room..... 102

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

JUGGLING WITH BYE-ELECTIONS.

"A democrat up to the hilt" writes the Ottawa Citizen, arguing that the present method of holding bye-elections, revives on a small scale, the abuses which prevailed long ago in general elections. "The system which prevailed 35 or 40 years ago was liable to abuses. The government, having in its hands the whole election machinery, manipulated it to suit its own purpose—to contribute to the success of ministers and their supporters. The election campaign, from dissolution to the return of the writs, usually extended from 70 to 100 days. This, of itself, with the excitement and turmoil consequent thereon, was far from being a commendable feature. On receipt of the writ the returning officer fixed the duties of nomination, polling and declaration within the limits prescribed by the statute. The interregnum between dissolution and polling was practically subdivided into three periods. In the first period only writs were issued and rushed for the strongholds, the safe constituencies of government candidates. Many of these went by acclamation, or by overwhelming majorities. These successes added éclat and prestige to the final triumph of the government. In the second period doubtful constituencies were attacked. One by one was government influence concentrated upon them; and too frequently the result bore testimony to the methods pursued. It not infrequently happened that the government merged from the denouement with an absolute majority of the representatives as avowed supporters. In the third period, with the increased prestige and éclat which the presumption gives, the government went into the strongholds of the opposition, sometimes capturing seats, considered almost hopeless."

The writer gives the Liberals credit for introducing the system of holding all the general elections on one day, but says that the abuse has crept up again in the bye-elections, both Conservative and Liberal governments having been guilty. The long delay in North-Railway was a bad case, and another was the St. James Division of Montreal. No government ought to have the right to delay a bye-election at its pleasure.

WAR, RED WAR.

The rupture of diplomatic relations between Russia and Japan unquestionably means war. That which has so long been feared has come at last. All those energies which have hitherto been devoted to its avoidance will now be diverted to the restriction of its area to the nations more immediately and seriously concerned. But the conflagration once lit it is impossible to say how far it may extend. The interests involved are numerous and vital and affect so many of the nations of the world almost despite themselves one or more may be drawn in for their own self-protection or to arrest developments which may conflict with their political aims and ambitions. The dread of this will during the continuance of hostilities hang like a pall over the nations, demanding eternal vigilance and absolute preparedness for any contingency.

In no case will there be more acute tension than throughout the British Empire, and in none of the self-governing colonies more so than in Canada. While her immediate trade concern is not so great yet as that of some other countries, as a matter of future expansion the preservation of the open door in Northern China becomes a momentous question. In this her interest is as intimate as that of the United States. If the Pacific is to rival the Atlantic as one of the commercial highways of the world, no nation will profit more from it than Canada, providing, as it will, the natural outlet for the vast wealth of field and mine lying unexploited in the Far West.

Apart from her position as an integral part of the empire, Canada has special reason to watch the progress of this conflict with keen attention, nor will it be possible to avoid a sympathetic feeling for the cause which holds within it such great possibilities for her.

There will be much speculation as to the chances of Britain being involved as an active participant. A few months ago such an issue would have been more readily anticipated. The conclusion of the British-Japanese treaty was hailed at the time as a masterly counter-stroke to the influence of the dual alliance between Russia and France and as restoring the supremacy of Britain in the eastern seas. Had the conditions then existing remained unaltered, the United Kingdom could not have seen

Peculiar To Itself

In what it is and what it does—containing the best blood-purifying, alterative and tonic substances and effecting the most radical and permanent cures of all humors and all eruptions, relieving weak, tired, languid feelings, and building up the whole system—is true only of

Hood's Sarsaparilla

No other medicine acts like it; no other medicine has done so much real, substantial good, no other medicine has restored health and strength at so little cost.

"I was completely run down, troubled with headaches and dizziness and pains in my back. I could not sleep and had no appetite, and medicine did not do me any good until I took Hood's Sarsaparilla which gave great relief and in a short time entirely cured me." Mrs. L. WATSON, Orangeville, Ontario.

Hood's Sarsaparilla promises to cure and keeps the promise.

unmoved the naval triumph of Russia over Japan, nor France remained a passive spectator of a war which threatened to cripple the fighting strength of her only European ally. That these alternatives no longer operate as they then did is due wholly to the recent growth of friendship culminating in the arbitration treaty between the United Kingdom and the French Republic and in the sympathetic attitude which has replaced the estrangement that had so long prevailed.

It has been distinctly stated that Great Britain has made it unmistakably plain to Japan that under no circumstances will she interfere unless in the contingency contemplated in the treaty, and that France has made a similar intimation to Russia. That Britain and France have been unitedly striving for peace is certain, and there is no reason to doubt that a mutual understanding prevails between them as regards their future conduct. This, of course, does not mean that the sympathies of the British people and the Imperial Government are not now enlisted on the side of Japan. It would be futile to deny that a Japanese victory means much for British interests in the East, both direct and indirect. That was a significant remark of the British envoy to Japan when in a recent speech he quoted the legend graven on the historic sword—on one side, "Be slow to draw me," and on the other, "Nor sheathe me save with honor." Military honor is a tradition in Japan, and the chivalry of the middle ages holds up no nobler examples than have been given by her nobles during the ancient regime.

Admiration cannot but be felt for the courage and determination which Japan has exhibited and has now crowned. Either it is justified by the consciousness of assured strength or it is a remarkable example of self-deception and folly. But the Japanese have displayed during these last years such exceptional qualities and their fleets and armies have won so many encomiums, that it is difficult to imagine them to be now guilty of a rashness little short of madness.

Any moment may now bring word of a naval engagement, as the first and absolutely necessary strategic move on the part of Japan is to obtain supremacy at sea. Russia's fleet is an unknown quantity. Strong on paper, it will belie all the known corruption of Russian officialdom if it proves in all respects efficient. A naval triumph for Russia means early and complete success, the retention of Manchuria and the extension of her influence over Corea. A Japanese victory at sea, seriously as it would damage Russian prestige, is but the beginning of a protracted war, in which financial troubles would be the most formidable factor, and in which, however safe Japan might be from actual invasion, her success on land is well nigh inconceivable. But an indecisive issue would be about as fatal to Russia in many ways as a defeat and could not but leave Japan infinitely stronger than she at present in. The position strikingly illustrates Captain Mahan's contentions regarding the decisive value of supremacy at sea, and ensures for Great Britain, should she be forced to intervene, a preponderating influence which no nation can successfully hope to emulate.—Toronto World.

NO APPLAUSE.

Toronto Telegram.

Canada must simply decline to applaud those thrilling lines in the King's speech which seek to popularize the Alaska award.

WORTH CULTIVATING.

New York Herald.

If, as Dr. Savage says, Henry Ward Beecher delivered his most powerful sermons while in a trance, would it be inadvisable to suggest to some of the cloth, that it would be well to get in that condition?

DREAM FORTUNES.

Bobaygon Independent.

Currency has been given to a little pipe dream about a lady in Peterboro being heir to some three or four millions in England. Just such dreams have been heard before. A reasonable line of credit at the corner grocery is generally worth more than the best of these dreams.

OUR PREMIER JOURNAL.

Ottawa Journal.

The exports of Canadian farm produce—our sales to other countries—were fourteen millions greater last year than all our other exports put together—greater than all the combined sales abroad from our forests, our fisheries, our mines, our many factories, our ships. Canada's total sales to other countries last year came to \$214,000,000. Farm produce gave \$114,000,000 of that.

Such is the meaning of agriculture to Canada. It means more than all other industries put together. To this supreme Canadian industry it is that Chamberlainism proposes to give a tremendous advantage in the world's greatest market.

PROTECTION IN ENGLAND.

Pittsburg Gazette.

Great Britain prospered in free trade for years and the United States prospered and grew under the protective system. That far the war of ideas seemed even. Then Britain began to lose and the United States advanced by leaps and bounds. To make the lesson more impressive, Germany adopted the American policy, and it has now almost overtaken its neighbor on the other side of the North sea. America had boundless undeveloped resources. Germany was as densely populated and almost as fully developed as England. These are the facts that have induced Joseph Chamberlain to lead the English free trade idol, and the struggle is of intense interest. The natural advantage is with the policy in vogue for fifty years, but even if it wins at first the irrepressible conflict must ultimately end in a victory for protection in England.

WHAT DOES HE MEAN?

"Stylander" in Weekly Sun.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, it seems, adheres to his demand of the treaty-making power. What does he mean by it? If he simply means the power of treating, he has it already. Every community and every person has it. But when the treaty-making power is claimed, we take it to mean a power which is the attribute of sovereignty alone. The imperial government may, and does, in the exercise of its treaty-making power, listen to the representations of Canada when Canada is specially concerned. It is morally bound so to do. It even authorizes Canada to treat for herself, subject to its own final approval. But no one can suppose that it will undertake to ratify or enforce any treaty not of its own making. A proposal to separate the King from his British advisers and use his name and authority apart for Canadian negotiations would not for a moment be entertained.

TOO LITTLE BLOOD.

Is the Cause of Most of the Misery in everyday life—Improve the Blood and Disease Will Not exist.

Among the many thousands who testify to the value of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills as a blood and nerve tonic is Miss Mary Jackson, Normandale, Ont., who says:—"I have used Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and have derived such benefit from them that I consider it my duty to let others know their worth. For upwards of three years I suffered from anaemia, and grew so weak that I could scarcely walk about the house. I had no color in my face, my lips and gums were bloodless. I lost all ambition, suffered from headaches and dizziness, and fell away in weight until I weighed only ninety-four pounds. I doctored a great deal, but it did not seem to do me any good. I was then advised to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and before I had taken them ten days I felt better and my people could see a change in me. I continued using the pills for some weeks and am now in the very best health. Every depressing symptom has passed away and I have gained fourteen pounds in weight. I think there is no medicine as equal Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and I strongly recommend them to all weak and ailing girls."

Miss Jackson's experience should bring hope to all the weak, ailing girls and women. What those pills have done for her they will do for others. Every dose adds tons and vigor to the blood and nerves, brings a glow of health to sallow cheeks, a sparkle to the eyes and a ruby redness to pallid lips. No other medicine has done so much to bring comfort and health to weak girls and women. If you are ailing give the pills a fair trial, and new health and strength will be yours. Do not accept any pink colored substitute; the genuine pills have the full name "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People" printed on the wrapper around every box. Sold by medicine dealers everywhere, or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 by writing The Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

FOR LOSS OF HER HUSBAND.

Hamilton, Ont., Feb. 8.—Mrs. Jane McPherson, widow of the late Alex. McPherson, school trustee, who was struck by a street car and almost instantly killed on December 26th last, has issued a writ against the Hamilton Street Railway Company to recover \$5,000 damages for the loss of her husband.

Contentment is a condition without in the reach of the most humble.

WE FINISH STOCK TAKING THURSDAY.

On Friday we will display in our Clothing Window some very attractive

Bargains in Clothing for Saturday's Trade.....

Men's, Boys' and Children's Clothing. The balance of this month at prices that will make a speedy clearance of a 1 odd lines.

Meynell's,

3 Doors West from Market, King Street

In the sick room THE MAGI

water is an invaluable adjunct; a natural Mineral Water of wide usefulness.

J.J. McLAUGHLIN, Toronto, AGENT.

THE MARKETS

Planet Office, Tuesday evening, February 9.

GRAIN
Ex-Ald. John Waddell, of J. B. Stringer & Co., gives The Planet the following grain prices:

All grains are in very light demand, and also light delivery. Business is small. Prices remain practically unchanged.

The following are the prices for this week:

Wheat, new, 78c.
Barley, 70c.
New white oats, 27c.
New corn, shelled, 32c.
Beans, humped, \$1.10.
Buckwheat, per bushel, 45c.
Buckwheat flour, per cwt., \$2.35.

SEEDS.

There is a moderate quantity of seeds showing on the market. Timothy this year averages good. Red clover, \$5.00 to \$5.50. Alsike, \$3.00 to \$4.00. Timothy, \$1.00 to \$1.25.

HAY.

F. B. Stevens reports as follows as to the prices of hay:

Choice Timothy Hay brings \$7.50. Hay, clover, \$6.00 to \$7.00.

DRESSED HOGS.

O'Keefe & Drew report the market in dressed hogs very dull. There will be practically no change during the rest of the season. The price is from \$5.00 to \$5.50.

WOOL AND HIDES.

Nelson Stringer gives The Planet the following quotations:

Wool, unwashed, 14c to 15c.
Wool, washed, 15c.
Calf skins, 7c to 10c.
Lamb and shearings, 25c to 40c.
Sheep skins, 50c to 85c.
Cow hides, 5c to 6c per lb.
Horse hides, \$1.00 to \$2.00.

FURS.

Coon skins, 25c to \$1.00.
Fox skins, \$1.00 to \$2.00.
Mink skins, \$1.00 to \$2.50.
Skunk, 25c to \$1.00.
Muskrat, 10c to 15c.

There was a better market Saturday than we have had for some time, which is largely due to the pleasant change in the weather. Although the vegetable department was much better. All prices are high. Turkeys sell for as high as \$1.75 for small birds, geese from 90c. to \$1.00, chickens as high as 50c. each and eggs at 35c. a dozen. Other prices remain about the same.

Following is the price list:

OUTSIDE MARKETS

TORONTO GRAIN MARKET.

Toronto, Feb. 9.—Prices in the local market are generally steadier, on account of a better demand. This applies more particularly to Ontario wheat, but American corn is also firmer. Manitoba wheat, on the other hand, is easier.

Wheat—Ontario—Firm, No. 2 red, white and mixed are 10c higher, at 83c to 84c for milling. Spring is also 1c higher, at 76c to 77c, for No. 1 east. Goose is quiet and unchanged at 72c to 73c for No. 2 east.

Wheat—Manitoba—No. 1 hard is unchanged at 90c, but other grades are 1-2c lower. No. 1 northern is quoted at 92 1-2 to 93c. No. 2 northern at 89 1-2 to 90c, and No. 3 northern at 86 1-2 to 87c on track, lake ports. Milling in transit price for each grade is 6c more.

500 yards fine English bleached cotton, even round thread, pure bleach, free from dressing, full 36 inches wide, the best 12 1-2 cotton in Canada, Thursday price 10c.

\$1.25 Blankets at \$1.10 a pair—25 pairs extra quality flannel blankets, large double bed size, white or grey, with fancy borders, soft fleecy finish, regular \$1.25 a pair, special at \$1.10.

Ten pairs only heavy wool blankets, large size, warranted unshrinkable, lofty finish, clearing at a pair \$2.75.

Pure wool blankets, superior quality and finish, extra weight and size, clearing at a pair \$3.25, \$3.85 and \$4.40.

Real down comforters—Four only pure down comforters, rich art silk, reversible coverings, in handsome designs and colorings, worth \$6.00 each, clearing at \$4.90.

Seven only full size heavy comforters, reversible chamois coverings, closely quilted, pure filling, regular \$1.50, clearing at \$1.25.

Rye—Is steady; No. 2 is quoted at 53c low, middle or high freight. Peas—Are unchanged; No. 2 are quoted at 62c, any freight.

Buckwheat—Quiet and steady; No. 2 is quoted at 48c low freight, 47c middle and 46c high freight.

Flour—The movement of 90 per cent. patents for export is very light, but dealers here are bidding \$3.20, buyers' bags, f. o. b. main line west. Some holders are asking \$3.30. Manitoba flour is firm. First patents are quoted at \$4.80 to \$4.90, second patents at \$4.50 to \$4.60, and strong bakers' at \$4.40 to \$4.50, bags included, on the track, Toronto.

Milled—Ontario's shorts are unchanged at \$17 to \$17.50, and bran is 50c higher at \$15 to \$15.50, in bulk, cars west. Manitoba milled, is unchanged at \$20 to \$21 for shorts, and \$18 to \$19 for bran, in car lots, bags included, on the track, Toronto.

Oatmeal—There is no change in the price of car lots on the track here, which are quoted at \$4.10 for bags and \$4.35 for barrels. Broken lots are quoted at 40c above the price of car lots.

Special Money-Saving Chances FOR THURSDAY BUYERS.

Five only comforters, regular \$1.75 to \$1.90, clearing at \$1.50.

New Prints—Over 8,000 yards just placed in stock; all bought before the advance in price; the choicest patterns and colorings we have ever shown; come in and buy them at the Old Prices.

15c. Pillow Cottons at 12 1-2c.—200 yards fine heavy, pure bleached Pillow Cotton, 42 in. wide, regular 15c. yard, special at 12 1-2c.

Linen Huck Towels, Worth 15c, for 11c. Each—15 dozen Huck Linen Towels, size 19 by 44 inch, firm quality, fringed and colored borders, a good 15c towel, clearing Thursday at 11c.

2 Pieces Pure Bleached Double Damask Tablecloth—Full 2 yards wide, grass bleached, rich satin finish, in choice designs, worth 90c. yard, Thursday at 68c.

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