

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH
Is published every Wednesday and Saturday at \$1.00 a year, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.
Advertisements of Wants, For Sale, etc., one cent a word for each insertion.
Notice of Births, Marriages and Deaths 25 cents for each insertion.
B. W. McGOWAN, Bus. Mgr.
S. J. McGOWAN, Editor.

ADVERTISING RATES.
Ordinary commercial advertisements taking the run of the paper, each insertion, \$1.00 per inch.
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IMPORTANT NOTICE.
All remittances must be sent by post or by order or registered letter, and addressed to The Telegraph Publishing Company, St. John, N. B.
Correspondence must be addressed to the Editor of The Telegraph, St. John, N. B.
All subscriptions must, without exception, be paid for in ADVANCE.

AUTHORIZED AGENT.
The following agent is authorized to canvass and collect for The Semi-Weekly Telegraph, viz:
Wm. Somerville

WANTED--Six copies Semi-Weekly Telegraph of June 28, 1905. Please send same to The Telegraph Publishing Co., St. John, N. B.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph

ST. JOHN, N. B., SEPTEMBER 20, 1905.

WESTERN INFLATION

"Land-mad" is the term applied to the Canadian West by a representative of the Montreal Herald who has been investigating conditions in the prairie country. He charges that the people keep on buying more land with money that should be used to pay their debts, and suggests that the East, which holds the purse strings, shall tighten them and demand that the West go slow.

The Herald man is convinced that nothing short of a succession of crop failures will bring the farmers to their senses.

There has been much smoke of this sort lately, and there is some fire behind it. For all that the fire is probably exaggerated. The farmers of the West will continue to buy more and more land. They will buy in too much in many cases. But the buying is evidence of a firm faith in the future of the country, of the absolute conviction that land will increase rapidly in value. This year's crop is safe. There is not much reason to expect a succession of bad seasons such as the Herald believes would be necessary to make the westerners shorten sail. The East may doubt and utter warnings, but it will not be able to interfere.

The West will go its own way, and while inflation may lead to disaster in some cases, perhaps in many, the general upward tendency of values is not likely to be checked for some years, to come at least.

There will be foolish "booms" in new towns along actual or expected railways, and collapses will follow. But the main current will set strongly toward greater prosperity in the wheat country.

THE EVERLASTING HARBOR

A great gasp of relief was heard in the community last evening as the hundreds of citizens who had been worrying about the harbor read this reassuring editorial statement in the Globe:

"Our harbor will remain where it is located for many years, and the trade will not depart because there is for a single winter no more wharves than we have now."

This definite assurance that the harbor is a permanent feature of the city should go far towards allaying the general feeling of nervousness that has existed for some time. Many citizens argued against the construction of more wharves on the ground that for all they knew there might be no harbor next year and the expenditure might be wasted. The aldermen have held this theory for several years, but they no longer have any excuse for acting upon it. The harbor is here to stay.

The Globe, in some mysterious fashion, has received the impression that the city's interests are endangered by the determination of the Council to "rush" the work of wharf building. The Council disappointed the Globe by calling for tenders. The Council is now warned that for the immediate future "it is far better to go on with the understanding that what is to be done shall be done with due diligence, but not with dangerous haste." The Council is reminded that "it is no easy thing to resist the forces which stampede a community such as St. John. But the reflecting citizen must surely have noted that the city has gained nothing by feverish haste in any of its undertakings; but that such haste has often resulted most unsatisfactorily."

But where is there any evidence of "dangerous haste"? And when has the city displayed "feverish haste" in any of its undertakings? This language might be fitting if the Globe were seeking to stop a runaway train or a Council gone mad over public improvements, but the mad haste it affects to discover at City Hall is wholly imaginary. The aldermen may have displayed feverish haste in raising their own salaries, but in the main their story has been one of delays. Even if the tenders are awarded on time the additional wharf space will not be ready as soon as it is needed. Rash activity at City Hall is about the last thing to be feared.

CAMPAIGN FUNDS

The New York Life, it appears by the testimony of Vice-President Perkins yesterday, contributed \$48,000 to the election fund of Roosevelt and Fairbanks in 1904. The company "chipped" in the same amount in 1900, and in 1900. Although the evidence is not yet at hand it is pretty well understood that the Equitable and the Mutual gave campaign contributions of the same amount--which would be some \$48,000 from the three companies, a considerable sum if small in comparison with the whole amount spent by Republican campaign managers who had some hundreds of corporations to draw from in the hour of the party's financial need.

The genial Mr. Perkins, upon being asked why his company felt a \$48,000 impulse of kindness toward the Republican cause in 1904, replied that the assets of the company would have been endangered by Democratic success. That was the partisan Republican view, no doubt, but that it should be repeated now as an excuse for the diversion of some \$150,000 of insurance money to a political election fund is peculiar enough. The assets to be protected, like the money contributed, was not the property of Republicans, but of Democrats and Republicans, Mormons, Populists, free silver men, labor men, Socialists, and others. All these had money in the New York Life. They voted according to their political opinions--but their money, or that part of it controlled by the insurance companies, voted the straight Republican ticket and bought others to vote for it. Mr. J. P. Morgan was voting that way. His partner, Mr. Perkins, who is also vice-president of the New York Life, was confident that the success of the Republicans was essential to the continued prosperity of the insurance company--had not Mr. Morgan said so?--and when Mr. Cornelius Blais passed the campaign hat Mr. Perkins dropped in the check.

But what has an insurance company to do with politics? What reason was there for the company to buy protection, or as Perkins says, "to play any political party"? The investigating committee, consisting of New York politicians whose parties are notoriously hungry for campaign contributions, will no doubt be greatly shocked by Mr. Perkins' testimony. Policyholders will be enlightened by it. There evidently is much more enlightenment coming.

The Wall Street Journal dwells insistently upon Mr. Perkins' dual role as a partner of Morgan and an officer of the insurance company--points out the obvious prevalence of graft.

"On Jan. 2, 1904, the New York Life Insurance Company bought from J. P. Morgan & Co. \$300,000 of the Navigation Syndicate (sold to Morgan two days earlier), thus restoring the original amount of the insurance company's interest therein. The effect was that the company was able to conceal its ownership of \$800,000 Navigation Syndicate interest from the state authorities and the public. The treasurer of the insurance company, in answer to the question:

"Have I not stated it accurately that the whole transaction was for the purpose of being able to state in your annual report to the superintendent of insurance that you had only \$3,200,000 of International Mercantile Marine, or in any navigation syndicate?"

"In other words, the treasurer of the New York Life Insurance Company pleaded guilty on its behalf to a deliberate act of deception, the nature of which was that of a plain lie."

"It further appears that there was no record action of the finance committee on the whole matter, and that George W. Perkins, vice-president of the company, conducted the dual transaction. Presumably, he did it in his dual capacity as insurance vice-president and partner in J. P. Morgan & Co. The unpleasant thing about this piece of deception is that it was admittedly done with the deliberate purpose of understating the insurance company's interest in certain assets, the character of which, it was recognized by all, was subject to serious criticism. Furthermore, these particular assets consisted of an interest in a syndicate conducted by J. P. Morgan & Co., George W. Perkins, partner, bought by the insurance company finance committee, George W. Perkins, chairman."

"One thing that seems at present evident is the immediate necessity of discontinuing the Hanover Bank building annex of the New York Life Insurance finance committee and terminating the dual capacity of Mr. George W. Perkins. There has already been a great deal too much George W. Perkins in this whole affair."

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AN ECHO OF PORT ARTHUR.

When General Stoessel's reputation began to fade, and that was as soon as Port Arthur fell and evidence concerning the actual conditions within the walls became known, his critics began to assert that General Kondratenko, was the real hero of the siege. This officer was killed during the last few days of fighting. It was said of him that he led and inspired the men while Stoessel was attending to his own health and safety and hoarding up money for the rainy day that arrived when he surrendered. It has been shown conclusively that the garrison was in no such straits for food, ammunition, or even medicine, as Stoessel represented it to be, and considering how the prolongation of the siege would have affected the more important operations about Mukden, it was seen that Stoessel's conduct had been repeatedly made that the surrender would have been postponed indefinitely had Kondratenko and not Stoessel been in command.

All this leads up to the curious fact that now, being attacked on all sides, and undergoing trial by court martial for the surrender of Port Arthur, Stoessel has sprung a mine by calling Kondratenko from the grave to confound the accusers. A letter purporting to have been written by Kondratenko to Stoessel, urging the necessity for making peace while Port Arthur was still holding out, has been given by Stoessel to the Petersburg Gazette. In this letter, the authenticity of which is already attacked, Kondratenko urges Stoessel to cable direct to the Czar in cipher and tell him the whole truth about the Russian reverses in Manchuria.

The writer of the letter pointed out that while Port Arthur stood, and the fleet in that harbor was safe, Russia had not sustained any very humiliating reverses. He added: "It is hardly possible to count upon a timely rescue of Port Arthur by our army or fleet. The only honorable outcome from such a position is, therefore, the conclusion of peace now, before the fall of Port Arthur, on conditions which need not be humiliating to our national dignity at the expense of the events of the campaign are being reported to the Emperor in a light contrary to reality. A true, sincere report, written by a devoted subject, would avoid a great misfortune to our country. Therefore, as the highest representative of the state here and a person invested with the Czar's confidence, will your excellency consider it possible to report to the emperor by means of a cipher telegram regarding the real state of affairs here in the Far East? This letter is written by me solely in consideration of the constant kindness shown to myself by your excellency, and of the deep assurance of the necessity of such a step for the country's welfare. With feelings of deepest respect and sincere devotion, I am your excellency's devoted servant, Kondratenko."

This would tend to prove that General Kondratenko had the utmost faith in Stoessel and that the relations between them were entirely satisfactory to both. Stoessel, at the court martial, will aver the letter is genuine. And they cannot summon Kondratenko.

THE WOMEN AND THE BIRDS

When thousands of women deem it wise and decorous to wear the birds of the air and the beasts of the field as ornaments to their heads, it is obviously reckless for men to wear them as ornaments. Fashion is not only a fickle jade but an imperious one, and fearful is the punishment that falls upon those who fail to do her bidding, particularly if they be of the sex of Eve. It should be plain enough to all that the women will continue to attire themselves in plumes borrowed from bird and beast no matter what the cost in money, no matter how general or how earnest the protests of those who regard artificial plumage as indefensible. But the unusual was of the ultra-humane upon the ultra-fashional goes on. Mr. Bernard Shaw, the British dramatist who regards Shakespeare with pity and contempt, he is not, reckless of the world's opinion, has decided that he can afford to rebuke the women whose hats are the horror of the Audubon Society. Having gone to hear an opera at Covent Garden he writes to the London Times of his anguish.

"At 9 o'clock a lady came in and sat down very conspicuously in my line of sight. She had very black hair, and stuck over her right ear was the pitiable corner of a large white bird which looked exactly as if some one had killed it by stamping on its breast, and then nailed it to the lady's temple. I am not a morbidly squeamish person, but the spectacle sickened me. I presume that if I had presented myself at the doors with a dead snake round my neck, a collection of black beetles pinned to my shirt front, and a grouse in my hair, I should have been refused admission."

As the opera manager at Covent Garden prevents the dress of its male patrons and prevents me or any other man from shocking its subscribers by wearing a blue tie, I suggest that they are at least equally bound to protect me against the danger of a woman shocking me with a dead bird."

If Mr. Shaw's sufferings were real, and if the majority of men felt as he writes, the remedy would be in sight. This man kind in general at the opera, listens to the song birds on the stage and forgets those on the women's hats. And, anyway, some of the dramatic critics spell the dramatist's name "Pshaw," which makes him a witness of doubtful value.

DISTRICT OF RUSSIA

Disturb of Russian professions concerning Manchuria is openly expressed in England as a result of recent signs in St. Petersburg, notably the Czar's deceptive and significant message to his beaten army. Mr. Asquith, in a speech delivered after the Treaty of Portsmouth was signed, said the peace contained the promise of stability, because "it need not leave behind it, as so many of the peace in history have done, any sense of permanent and recurring humiliation." This man the London Daily Telegraph feels that it cannot accept without considerable reservation. The Anglo-Japanese treaty may compel Russia to forsake her old ways, opposing to her, as it does, a force so great as to make successful attack seem impossible even to the mad bureaucrats at St. Petersburg.

But Mr. Asquith's view, the Telegraph points out, "would seem to assume that Russia will not only accept, but acquiesce in, the results of the war, and will resign all hopes of regaining what she has lost."

"It needs considerable optimism," the journal continues, "to take such a view, for the penalties of Russia's defeat, which by no means excessive, are certainly not light. The two nations fought, not over some insignificant quarrel or to avenge wounded dignity, but for a prize of enormous value--the ascendancy of the Far East and the predominance of influence in shaping the future of China and her millions. That prize, of course, if Russia is to be in order to ascertain why he was absent when the Czar was called."

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Prentice Boys' Lodges of Gibson and Marysville, with Orangemen from the lodges at Fredericton, Gibson, St. Marys and Marysville, had a church parade yesterday. At Gibson Baptist church addresses were given by Rev. W. R. Robinson, pastor of the church, and the master of Gibson Prentice Boys' Grand Master McLeod, Past Grand Master Thomas and other prominent Orangemen.

The black gelding stolen by Will Currie from McIntosh's livery stable at Port Fairfield (Me.), was recaptured near Currie's home at Salmon River, Queens county, by Constable Hawthorne on Saturday. Currie has been in several other horse and bicycle stealing escapades.

The municipal election campaign opened at Burt's Corner on Saturday night, when candidates McFarlane, Alex. Brewer, W. H. Bailey and Moses Haines for Douglas parish addressed a large meeting of ratepayers. Fierce contests in several parishes are promised.

E. R. Golding, B. A., son of City Treasurer Golding, leaves on the 27th for Cambridge (Mass.), to enter Harvard Law School.

The Veteran of Bull Run.
One day not long ago I met a soldier who had been wounded in the face. He was a Union man, and looked him in which battle he had been injured.

"In the last battle of Bull Run," he replied, "But how could you get hit in the face at Bull Run?" asked.

"Well, sir," said the man, half apologetically, "after I had run a mile or two I got careless and looked back."

GRAFT
In The Telegraph's New York special despatch this morning the relations between corrupt politicians and corrupt insurance officials are described in plain and forcible English. The corporations pay vast sums in order that their interests may be "protected" by the politicians. Except that the sums involved are greater the transaction is on a par with that of the dive keeper who pays the policeman not to see the dive's open door. Yearly the bribes grow in size, the tide of blackmail flows faster and reaches men and positions formerly regarded as unquestionably clean and above even a compromise with the forces of organized corruption. Like the effect of a pebble thrown into a lake has been that personal quarrel between Hyde and Alexander of the Equitable. Already the widening circle of disclosure has enclosed some of the first names in the world of finance; already a black bargain is fastened upon the managers of both political parties and upon the campaign managers of Theodore Roosevelt--the Roosevelt who said of one of his administrations that it would be "as clean as a hound's tooth."

The shock of the recent disclosures is not due to the fact that the knowledge made public is all new. It was all known or suspected before. The surprise is that politicians should elicit competent evidence giving chapter and verse in these transactions. This sort of evidence gets to the whole public and stirs it.

One immediate result of the insurance testimony is a striking challenge to President Roosevelt from some of the foremost forces in American journalism. He cannot well object if it is now proposed to try him by standards he himself set. Here, for example, is the New York Post's proposal:

"President Roosevelt recommended to Congress a measure calling for publicity of insurance companies. Let him now direct Treasurer Bliss to make public at least all the subscriptions made by life insurance companies. And then, if the President still feels as disturbed as he was when he wrote to Paul Morton about the squandering of funds properly reserved for the helpless and dependent, he can call upon his rich Republican friends to pay back all that the party received last year from that source."

There is a plain and bitter proposition for the president who has never succeeded to preach righteousness to the people whose idol he is. Of the payments for political purposes out of life insurance funds, payments known to have been made to the campaign treasurers of the Republican party, the Post says:

"To the President, this must come as a shocking piece of news. If he had really known what his agents were doing, he could not have displayed such heat as he has in his reply to Judge Parker, on November 4, 1904. He declared it to be a 'wicked falsehood,' and an accusation which 'I truly would brand both Mr. Cortelyou and me with infamy,' that contributions had been extorted from corporations to aid in his election. Of course, President Roosevelt was careful to use such words as 'blackmail,' and a 'promise' of 'future immunity,' but every one knows what gentlemen blackmailers go about before elections. They weep and deeply sympathize, like the walrus, as they sort out the corporations of the largest size, but the latter understand sufficiently why it is that they are asked to make a campaign contribution. And as for a 'promise,' a really high-toned manager would be ashamed to demand so vulgar a thing. A wink is as good as a bond between the bearer and the filler of the campaign bag. No; the revelations of yesterday will go far to convince plain men that Judge Parker spoke but the truth when he said that the large corporations were contributing heavily to President Roosevelt's election."

One party is quite as bad as the other in this matter; but the Republicans were the more successful in levying tribute. The offense was not so much in giving to any particular party as in giving at all--in buying up legislators and legislators. A war upon graft and grafters is needed in the United States. There is evidence enough to justify the war. The people would support it. But the men of all men most fitted by official position to make such a war effective is Mr. Roosevelt--and it appears that his hands are not altogether clean.

NOTE AND COMMENT
Perhaps the Canadian railway crusaders are gunning for an international difficulty.

Nan Patterson and her former husband have been re-married. The officiating clergyman is a proud man now--perhaps.

The famous Cushing case takes another turn. The liquidator must show cause why he should not be prevented from earning his salary.

The immigrant boy who was wanted as a witness at Hampton has been found. He will now be in order to ascertain why he was absent when the Czar was called.

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President Randolph, of the Boom Company, had a telephone message from Edmundston today stating that it was raining hard there and had been ever since last night. This makes a decidedly bright outlook for lumbermen.

The first string of race horses have arrived here for the Fredericton exhibition races, and things are taking on a lively aspect at the race track. On Saturday night "Clum" Burritt, the well known Maine driver, arrived at the track with Midura, 2:14 3/4; Shamrock, 2:19 1/4; Altissimus, 2:21 3/4; and Nellie Brown, 2:30. Midura is by Monogramme and was formerly owned by W. J. Furbush. When he starts in the free-for-all it will be the little gelding's first race in the maritime provinces.

Prentice Boys' Lodges of Gibson and Marysville, with Orangemen from the lodges at Fredericton, Gibson, St. Marys and Marysville, had a church parade yesterday. At Gibson Baptist church addresses were given by Rev. W. R. Robinson, pastor of the church, and the master of Gibson Prentice Boys' Grand Master McLeod, Past Grand Master Thomas and other prominent Orangemen.

LUMBER OUTLOOK.
MUCH BRIGHTER

Heavy Rain Yesterday Aids Stream Drivers in Their Task.

Engineer Harrison of Public Works Department, Said to Have Resigned to go With G. T. P.--Stolen Horse Found--Other News of Fredericton.

Fredericton, N. B., Sept. 18.--It has been raining here the greater part of the day, and quite a number of logs are running in the vicinity of Springhill, and are being set afloat by the boom company's sakers.

It is rumored that William Harrison, C. E., assistant engineer of the department of public works, has resigned his position and has accepted a position with the Grand Trunk Pacific as engineer in charge of one of the sections in Ontario at a salary of \$3,000