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THE DAILY TELEGRAPH THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH THE EVENING TIMES

New Brunswick's Independent Newspapers

These newspapers advocate: British connection Honesty in public life

Measures for the material progress and moral advancement of our great Dominion.

No graft! No deals! "The Whistle, Shamrock, Rose and The Maple Leaf Forever."

Semi-Weekly Telegraph at The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 14, 1914.

ANOTHER CONSERVATIVE MEETING.

The Conservative party has been holding an uncommon number of meetings in St. John of late. These meetings are supplementary and wholly independent of those other meetings held by the citizens of St. John at large to protest against the diversion of the steamers from this port.

St. John read a speech by Hon. Mr. Pelletier a short time ago, in which he intimated that the government would stand pat on the tariff this year, making no concessions in the way of the removal of duties on necessities.

Hon. Mr. Hazen, in a recent speech here, practically repeated what Mr. Pelletier said on this issue, and conspicuously avoided any reference to certain disturbing local questions which he was expected to clear up.

Hon. Mr. Foster also spoke of St. John matters a short time ago, and suggested that St. John people would do well to "keep their hats on."

Hon. Mr. Crothers was another visitor. He was asked about the high cost of living, and he said that at the time when gold was plentiful in the Yukon men had to pay \$15 a plate for ham and eggs.

It will be observed that St. John has not profited greatly by the words of wisdom falling from the lips of Hon. Messrs. Pelletier, Hazen, Foster and Crothers.

On Wednesday evening there was another Conservative meeting, among the speakers being Mr. Fowler, M. P., the Hon. J. E. Wilson, Senator Daniel, and Mr. H. W. Woods, M. P. Mr. Fowler confirmed the position taken by Mr. Hazen and Mr. Pelletier with respect to the government's course in regard to the tariff.

Now they are harping on free food? That has a melodious ring. It sounds good to a man who is hungry.

What do they mean by free food? During the Mackenzie administration we had free soup kitchens in Canada. It was the kind of free food they are going to give us.

In Canada the people produce their own food. They don't want free food. What will the farmers do if the people are to be given free food? And where will the Liberals get their free food? Not in the States? Free is not free there. Will they get free food in England? Certainly not. This talk of free food is simply absurd.

If Mr. Fowler will continue this line of profound argument, and if the lead-

ers of his party will but continue to maintain the attitude disclosed by Mr. Hazen and Mr. Pelletier, and now by Mr. Fowler, the Liberal party will be content, whatever may be the feeling of the public. The Standard newspaper, from which we take this portion of Mr. Fowler's speech, says that the audience received it with marked enthusiasm.

In another part of his speech Mr. Fowler said that he "had not any use for a man who, being interested in politics, was afraid to oppose his party when he conscientiously believed it to be in the wrong because somebody might call him a turncoat."

Senator Daniel also spoke. The manager of Conservative meetings appear to make use of Senator Daniel as a sort of ponderous curtain-raiser or as a filler-in between acts.

Set down in cold type in the Standard, much of what was said at this last Conservative meeting really looks rather foolish.

THE PANIC OF THE ALARMISTS.

The excitement and nervousness which caused the panic in Dreadnought building in Britain, beginning in 1898, has almost completely subsided, and the reaction has set in.

But the condition has changed. Today there is no passion, and no panic. There is no fear of Germany, and certainly there is no disposition to pass estimates without subjecting them to the cold light of reason and critical intelligence.

There is no reason why we should not arrive at just such clear and definite standards in relation to dramatic art. To condemn the stage wholesale is as reasonable as it would be to condemn the printing-press. At any rate, condemnation without discrimination reaches upon the speaker and the whole of moral influence.

Now that the people of Britain are being called upon to pay for the excesses of the past few years of "scarcity," politicians are finding that the movement of the sensation-mongers has been like that of a man who uses a blunt knife with a sharp handle.

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THE TROUBLE IN THE WEST.

While Canada generally is satisfied that the financial outlook has improved considerably during the last few weeks, and is likely to improve even more rapidly in the next few months, stories of lack of work and tightness of money continue to come from the western Canadian provinces.

Some little time ago the Manitoba Free Press reported that at Aberdeen, a town thirty miles from Saskatoon, the farmers had raised a fund to pay the fine of any farmer in that district found guilty of assaulting any agent of farm implement companies.

THE CHURCH AND AMUSEMENTS

Lord Macaulay said that the Puritans hated bear-baiting not because it gave pain to the bear but because it gave pleasure to the spectators. Whether this correctly states the reason for their opposition or not, there is no doubt that they vigorously persecuted and condemned all amusements as sins against the soul.

While we have been busy confessing the sins of our ancestors in this we have worked our way to no clear opinion on the subject of amusements. From the churches a particular voice is raised occasionally in condemnation of the theatre and of dancing.

These reports about trouble in the West do not mean that the Canadians of that district will not recover from the present setback. The West is a good country in many respects; it is receiving a great stream of immigration, and its people are energetic, optimistic and enterprising beyond most.

At the same time, it is well for people living in the East to examine with care the advantages and disadvantages of this part of Canada before jumping to the conclusion that the West offers anything which cannot be had here by the same expenditure of energy, courage, or capital.

SOME CONSERVATIVE LOGIC.

Probably the readers of the Standard are, on the average, nearly as intelligent as other New Brunswickers. Assuming that they are, it would seem to be a mistake policy for the Standard to address to them day after day arguments so evidently fallacious or dishonest that they could decide the average person of voting age.

The interesting question is as to how the lord of the manor acquired his position of influence and importance. The Norman Conquest did not create the lord of the manor; it simply substituted Norman for Saxon lords.

The Westminister Gazette, which is regarded as enjoying the confidence of the Asquith ministry, denies that there is a split in the cabinet over the naval estimates. It says: "Mr. Lloyd George is not in violent disagreement with Mr. Churchill nor is he in favor of reducing the navy beyond the standard which the First Lord has laid down."

A New Brunswick protectionist journal discovered the other day that the United States eats more fish than it produces, and asked with an air of triumph what possible reason could exist for removing the Canadian duty on fish.

There's something wrong when a fellow-kin make more money in politics than he can in office. It's too bad that anything as cheap as politeness hant fattens.

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