

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH

Published every Wednesday and Saturday 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 line.

Subscription Rates: Sent by Mail to any address in Canada at One Dollar a Year. Sent by Mail to any address in United States at Two Dollars a Year.

Important Notice: All remittances must be sent by post office order or registered letter, and addressed to The Telegraph Publishing Company.

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

Semi-Weekly Telegraph ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 22, 1908.

IT WAS DR. PUGSLEY

Another chapter in the story of the Liberal convention that did not convene is now available. The president of the Liberal organization for this province publishes an advertisement this morning in which responsibility for the postponement is placed upon the ample but heavily-laden shoulders of Hon. Mr. Pugsley.

This explanation is merely an elaboration of that given out at first. It serves to show that the president did what Dr. Pugsley required of him, which would suggest that he represents Dr. Pugsley rather than the party at large.

The Sun is displeased with Mr. Borden, Col. Hughes and others whom it styles ineffective critics. As to parliamentary conditions generally, the Sun says: "This is where Sir Wilfrid has come lamentably short—he has permitted colleague after colleague to make their fortunes while in office, and whether the opposition brings home every charge or not, the question, Where did they get it? is answered by the public at large in only one way—they stole it."

The Sun argues that the country's duty—the duty of true Liberals—is to punish the present government, because it has permitted the conditions referred to to exist, to flourish and to become more aggravated year after year.

A LIBERAL CRITIC

Criticism which will carry much weight in Liberal circles throughout Canada because it comes from an exponent of the old-time Liberal doctrine, is printed by the Toronto Weekly Sun.

The Sun believes that the effect of the recent revelations at Ottawa upon supporters of the government "can hardly be exaggerated."

equivalent language declares the militia department to be an outrageous scandal, and the marine department nothing short of a sink of iniquity.

"Why, it is asked, did not ministers ascertain all this for themselves? Did anybody ever hear of a railway or a bank being allowed to fall into such a deplorable condition even by the most incapable of directors?"

"Sir Frederick Borden's department has fallen under the control of a unique set of imbeciles as could be got together by diligent labor in this or any other land."

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HOW IT WORKS OUT

The value of our pulpwood now, as compared with what the country would gain if the manufacturing were done here instead of in the United States, is tersely set forth in the following paragraph:

"The returns of the Department of Trade and Commerce show that in the past four years the United States has drawn from Canada two millions and a quarter cords of pulpwood, for which Canada received about nine million dollars."

of the great American mills will be assured a new lease of manufacturing activity and prosperity—largely at Canada's expense. The only serious opposition manifested in Canada to the imposition of an export duty on pulpwood is shown by the firms who act as agents of United States concerns who draw their raw material from this country, and a few members of parliament, chiefly representing Quebec constituencies along the international border, who are dominated by purely local interests.

The St. John, N.B., Sun, Liberal, declares that the party in New Brunswick is dangerously disorganized. It says that weakness exists which must be remedied, and that there are differences which must be healed if it is to present an effectively formidable front to its opponents in the general election.

ST. JOHN AND THE TRANS-ATLANTIC SERVICE

An interview with Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, which appears on another page, will serve to remind St. John of one of the before-election pledges of Hon. Mr. Pugsley. Sir Thomas called attention to the unnecessary delay caused by sending the mail steamers from St. John to Halifax, instead of permitting them to go direct from St. John to Liverpool.

THE SCHOOLS

Judging from past experience, St. John will not make its public buildings safe unless its aldermen and officials are compelled to act by public indignation.

THE SESSION

In reviewing the session of Parliament up to adjournment the Ottawa Journal (Ind.), selects the report of the civil service commission as the event which above all others has seized the attention of the country at large.

DREDGING

Impulsive defenders of government methods of awarding dredging contracts involving vast expenditures have scarcely done the subject justice either as regards the Minister of Public Works on the one hand or the contractors on the other.

NOTE AND COMMENT

Italy menaces the Sultan. The Un-speakable Turk will not change his ways because of black looks. And Italy will not shoot. It will end in talk.

O Lost Canadian Singer

(To the memory of W. H. Drummond, died April 1, 1907.)

(By Dr. J. D. Logan, in Toronto World)

O lost Canadian Singer of wisdom's lays, How farthest thou along the Byronic ways—Art thou companionless as we?

And sorrowing? This April day the carolling Of songsters on the tree, But no new note from thee To us shall come.

For 'tis the time is genial Spring, When the birds of the forest to sing His joyous strains and his praise Of earth growing lovelier with the April days.

But thine own lips are dumb! O gentle heart, we wonder if thou farest happily With Homer and the Attic strain, Or Milton and the tragic train, Or with those warblers of sweet power Whose song is as the liveliest noon That ever from bird-like throats— Short, plaintive lays of kind humanity?

How'er thou farest, we grieve this April day, When Death called to thee and thou wentest away. Yet if thou hearest our low lament, Thou wilt, poet, and art content— No grove, pillar, no frescoed corral, But thine own muse, sweet and magical, Shall be, as now, thy best memorial.

And lastly— O lost Canadian Singer, Canadian hearts are true; They hail thee o'er the void—Bonnie unit, Adieu!

The Editor of the Toronto Globe to Gao. E. Foster.

(Toronto News)

O promise me, O promise me, I will meet when other people are not high And have an argument with sticks and stones.

O promise me, O promise me, And tereby try to break each other's bones. Thinking how better for to smash the jaw Than with a libel suit to seek the Law, Hard words are vain, as you can plainly see.

O promise me, O promise me, O promise me, O promise me, I will meet when other people are not high And have an argument with sticks and stones.

O promise me, O promise me, When to the merry trysting-place you roam, Cause shooting might put one of us in bed, And give the press a big six-column lead, Nothing more savage than a newspaper's brick.

'Twill be enough to make us both look sick, All that is useless, one must both agree, O promise me, O promise me.

following the wrong course, and even went so far as to justify the queer transactions that have been revealed with reference to the dredging operations."

The Toronto journal points out that originally the work was given out without tender, but Mr. Bennett's protests rendered it necessary in most cases to go through the form of asking for tenders.

THE CITY AND THE MONEY

"Each of the heads of departments should clearly understand that the expenditures during the year for his department must be kept within his appropriations, as the city will have no more revenue at its disposal."

THE LICENSES

The liquor license commissioners heard evidence on Saturday which should serve to make it easy for them to reduce the number of licenses in case the Supreme Court decides that the number heretofore granted has been greater than the law permits.

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are not to be dodged. They must be dealt with. And they must be dealt with from the standpoint of the public interest. There is no politics in enforcing the law. There was politics, of a sort, in failing to enforce it.

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indeed if evidence to reverse that decision should now be discovered. But for the Maine, war might have been averted. Had it been, the United States would not have entered upon its policy of expansion and terrific expenditure for military purposes.

The constant agitation for a bigger army and navy in the absence of any visible danger is beginning to get on the nerves of some of the American publicists. One of them says of Mr. Roosevelt's demand for four more battleships:

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