

## THE INCREASED SUBSIDIES.

Premier McBride of British Columbia Withdrew From the Conference.

On Friday the real trouble with British Columbia began at the premier's conference in Ottawa. Premier McBride wanted the special claims of British Columbia for an extra subsidy to be referred to arbitration. On motion of Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Wair, a resolution was adopted stating that it was inadvisable that the claim of any province for subsidies be referred to arbitration. All the provinces voted for this except British Columbia so that it was lost by 8 to 1. Mr. McBride then laid before the conference the following declaration:

"I protest that the question of British Columbia's claim upon the Dominion government should not be considered by the conference but that it is a question between the government of British Columbia and the Dominion government."

Mr. Whitney moved, seconded by Mr. Murray: That in view of the large area, geographical position and very exceptional features of the said province of British Columbia, it is the opinion of this conference that the said province should receive a reasonable additional allowance for the purposes of civil government in excess of the provisions made in the Quebec resolutions of 1902, and that such additional allowance should be to the extent of one hundred thousand dollars annually for ten years.

This was discussed all day at Saturday's meeting. It was moved in amendment (to Mr. Whitney's motion) by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Rutherford: "That the following words be added to Mr. Whitney's motion respecting exceptional treatment to British Columbia:

"In view of the new territory to be added to the province of British Columbia, each of the said provinces should be granted for a period of ten years an allowance of fifty thousand dollars per annum in excess of the subsidies provided by the Quebec resolutions of 1902, as amended."

At this stage Hon. Mr. McBride withdrew from the further proceedings of the conference. The conference dividing on the above amendment, it was lost on division. The question then being put on Mr. Whitney's motion, the conference adopted it unanimously.

**Provinces to Make Concessions.** Mr. Robin moved, seconded by Mr. Peters: "That as a result of the deliberations of this conference with the representatives of the government of the Dominion of Canada: 1—That the conference recommends to each legislature to abolish the special tax on commercial travellers, provided that this recommendation does not apply to any licensee payable under any act concerning the sale of intoxicating liquors. 2—That this conference also recommends that the legislatures of the several provinces shall make no discrimination in the taxation of companies incorporated by the province wherein such tax is imposed."

(As to the second part of the above resolution Mr. Whitney and Mr. Murray stated that they desired to consult with their colleagues before assenting to it.) The resolution was adopted.

It was also resolved "That a meeting of the prime ministers of the several provinces of Canada be held each year to consider matters of common interest, and that every such meeting shall be convened by the prime minister of the province of Ontario and the prime minister of the province of Quebec."

It was moved by Mr. Whitney, seconded by Mr. Rutherford, and unanimously resolved: "That the members of this conference place on record their hearty appreciation of the attention shown them by the prime minister of Canada and his colleagues, and of their efforts to facilitate the work of the conference."

**Unavailing Attempt to Placate McBride.**

After Mr. McBride left the conference on Saturday there was a conference between the Dominion government and the provincial representatives. At the instance of some of the Dominion ministers Mr. Robin was asked to get Mr. McBride to return to see if anything could be done in the way of satisfying British Columbia. Mr. McBride returned, but did not stay long, and then retired altogether, taking his papers along with him. The other ministers said that the British Columbia premier would not give them any data to go on, and Mr. Whitney told him in conference that he was neither frank nor candid.

**What the Dominion Will Do.** Sir Wilfrid Laurier informed the province that he would not be able to give them all that they asked. He

could not accede to the financial resolutions of 1902, but he would give them what was asked at the conference of 1897. The difference was that in the latter there was no amount to be referred to arbitration. Mr. Fielding he said that he would visit England next spring, and arrange for an amendment to the British North America act. The premier touched upon the other subjects taken up at the conference.

Taking the 1897 resolutions the sums that the provinces will hereafter receive will be as follows: Special subsidies for general and civil legislation, Ontario, \$340,000; increase \$169,000; Quebec, \$240,000; increase \$170,000; Nova Scotia, \$190,000; increase \$130,000; New Brunswick, \$180,000; increase \$130,000; Manitoba, \$150,000; increase \$130,000; British Columbia, \$150,000; increase \$115,000; Prince Edward Island, \$100,000; increase \$70,000.

On the per capita tax the subsidies will be as follows: Ontario, \$1,746,367; increase \$229,484; Quebec, \$1,319,118; increase \$229,865; Nova Scotia, \$867,659; increase \$47,659; New Brunswick, \$294,896; no increase as yet; Manitoba, \$203,957; no increase; British Columbia, \$140,826; no increase; Prince Edward Island, \$82,000; no increase. This makes an increase for the old provinces of \$1,107,008 in the per capita subsidies, and of \$908,000 on the specific, or a total increase of \$2,015,018. To this will have to be added the \$100,000 special grant for British Columbia and also the increases for the 130 new provinces which will be \$1,200,000 for each, or a total increase to all provinces of \$2,374,018.

**\$150,000 a Year for Alberta.** Manitoba and the two new provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta do not profit as yet by the increased per capita subsidy because they have not yet reached the maximum figure fixed by the arrangement which is now to be retired; but hereafter they will each get a specific grant of \$150,000 annually for legislation, in place of \$50,000 as heretofore. They will thus each get \$130,000 a year more from the Dominion treasury.

The specific subsidy under the new arrangement is based on \$100,000 for a population of less than 150,000; of 400,000, \$190,000; 1,500,000, \$220,000; and over that figure, \$240,000. The new per capita subsidy is based on 50 cents a head until the population is 2,500,000, and over that 60 cents a head. To make these changes requires an amendment of the B. N. A. act.

**Ontario's Special Memorandum.** The special memorandum put forward by Mr. Whitney for Ontario made certain representations. In the first place Ontario declared it was in favor of some definite and permanent arrangement regarding the subsidy question so as to do away with periodical applications for rearrangement of the subsidies. The province did not agree in the idea that the B. N. A. act should not be changed. It would be strange, says the memorandum, if the fathers of confederation should legislate for posterity and their sons should come into existence afterwards. The income of the Dominion from customs and excise should be taken into consideration in defining the subsidies. The Dominion was not burdened with the responsibilities of an independent nation. The provinces spent money for immigration and pay their share of the Dominion expenditure on the work. The expenditures of the province went on increasing while the revenue of the Dominion goes on increasing. Some of the provisions of the Australian act of union were cited. Because of the amount of customs revenue collected in Ontario compared with the expenditure on railways by the Dominion, special consideration should be given to the province. In future there should be no special grants. The claim for administering the criminal law had merits. What Messrs. Whitney, Foy and Matheson, who signed the memorandum, wanted was a settlement on a just and equitable basis to all the provinces.

The memorandum informally handed in by the premier of British Columbia asked for an extra subsidy beyond that given the other provinces of \$1 per head until the amount reached \$300,000 per annum. After 400,000 population was reached it was to be 75 cents per head until \$500,000 was reached, where it would remain until the population was one million and a half; then 33 1-3 cents until \$600,000 was received and until population became 2,500,000; and afterwards 25 cents per head in perpetuity. There was no resolution putting this to the conference, but as soon as Mr. Whitney's resolution giving British Columbia \$100,000 extra was put, Mr. McBride withdrew. This was the only incident that marked the harmony of the proceedings from the opening address of welcome by Sir Wilfrid Laurier down to the singing of God Save the King in the conference and the clinking of glasses with Hon. J. P. Whitney in the Ontario room last evening.

The Manitoba premier, who presented his own case in a brief and business-like way, did his best to get Mr. McBride satisfied, and Premier Whitney lost his patience with the man from the Pacific slope.

It was hinted before Mr. McBride left home that he was to play "a long hand" for effect in the approaching general election in his province rather than to get all he could in the way of a subsidy, and evidence was given that he was something of this kind going on when he told the British Columbia premier that he was neither "frank nor candid."

**Another Conference on Boundaries.** Sir Wilfrid Laurier arranged with Premier Robin and Attorney-General Campbell as well as the other pro-

## EXTINCTION OF THE BUFFALO.

At one time a buffalo overcoat was considered a necessity by those living in the North-Western States. In St. Paul one could buy such a coat for \$10. Today a buffalo robe is worth from \$200 to \$300. It was the pitiful sum of \$1.50 to \$4 each paid for their hides which tempted men to kill off the buffalo.

In 1870 the Pacific railroad had difficulty in operating its trains because of the enormous herds of buffalo which crossed their tracks. At first the engineers tried charging these herds; but derailed and crippled engines warned them that the buffalo were not to be brushed off the track in this reckless fashion.

After that the railroad trains were held up and passengers sometimes watched for two or three hours the enormous herds crossing the lines. They were quite unoffensive, and being unusually stupid beasts, were not at all frightened at the approach of man.

It was this stupidity that added the element of certainty to their extinction. Other animals when hunted grow wary of man and of the sound of his gun, but the buffalo never associated the presence of man or the gun's report with danger, and the hunter could easily follow a small herd, killing them off one by one until he shot them all.

This meant that a good hunter could kill from thirty to seventy-five buffalo a day. This meant a very large income, the promise of which drew thousands of men to the plains, and during the years 1872-74 millions of the animals were killed. In 1876 80,000 hides were shipped to the east from Fort Benton; in 1884 none were shipped. The year 1883 had seen the virtual extinction of the buffalo.

The Southern herds were exterminated first. They made their last stand in Texas, where, scattered over sparsely settled territory in diminished numbers, they offered little temptation to the professional hunter. Meantime the northern herds were being pushed through, and the herds there were quickly attacked and exterminated.

In 1883 the last great herd of buffalo, estimated at 80,000, crossed the Yellowstone river, going north, and it is thought that they perished of hardship and disease. At all events they never came back; and they have never been heard of since.

The last great killing occurred in Western Dakota in 1883. A herd which at the beginning of the previous season had numbered ten thousand, had rapidly dwindled to one thousand, when in October Sitting Bull and his band of nearly a thousand braves from the Standing Rock agency—fell upon this last bunch, and in two days wiped it completely off the earth. The buffalo had gone, but strangely enough not even the butchers were aware of it. There had always been buffaloes—thousands and millions of them—and there always would be buffaloes, they thought. In the fall of 1883 they nearly all fitted out as usual and went out to the range as confident as ever. But, alas! the plains which had for a myriad years echoed to the thundering tread of marching hosts were for the first time silent wildernesses. Buffalo wallows were there by thousands; buffalo trails crossed and recrossed the country like networks; there were bleached bones almost as numerous as the blades of prairie grass, but the great picturesque beings which had peopled the plains were gone, and the insatiable butchers were at last forced to unload their useless guns and sheath their knives.

**CANADA'S BIG BRIDGES.** Six miles above Quebec, near the point where the St. Lawrence, at low water, is somewhat less than 2,000 feet wide, a cantilever bridge is being built. As Brooklyn bridge had to yield the palm to the Fourth bridge in 1890, so now the Fourth bridge must yield it to the St. Lawrence. The central span of the Canadian bridge is 1,800 feet long, stretching almost from bank to bank. The central suspended girder is 675 feet long and 130 feet deep at the centre. The width of the anchor spans is 500 feet; of the approach spans 210 feet. Two tracks will carry the railroad traffic. There will be roadways for roads and street car traffic. So Canada will have the longest bridge span in the world.

The mammoth new cantilever bridge connecting Montreal with the south shore, which will cover nearly two miles and a half when completed, was started last week. The bridge, when finished, will be the largest in the world and will take two years to construct.

## MR. DOOLEY ON PRINTER'S INK.

"It is a wonderful thing," he says. "I see a bar'l iv printer's ink goin' into a newspaper office an' it looks common enough. A bar'l iv printer's ink, a bar'l iv lined ile an' lamp-black. But I tell ye if all th' dinny-mite, lyddite, cordite and gun cotton in th' wurld wuz hid behind them hoops there wudden't be as much disturbance in th' bar'l as there is in th' messy stuff that looks like so much tar," he says. "Printer's ink! A dhyop iv it on awn little wurrud in th' flat," he says. "Will blacken th' fairest name in Christendom or," he says, "make a star to shine on the lowliest brow," he says. "It will find its way into millions iv homes an' hearts an' memories, it will go through iron dures an' stone walls an' I'll carry some message that may turn th' current iv ivry life it meets, I'm th' Imperor iv Chiny to th' baynd iv th' cradle in Hannigan's flat," he says. "It may undo a thousand prayers or start a million. It can't be escaped."—The American Magazine for October.

## GRAND TRUNK AT JAMESTOWN EXPOSITION.

Norfolk, Va., Oct. 19.—Among the interesting transportation exhibits at the Jamestown exposition, to be held on the shores of Hampton Roads, near Norfolk, in 1907, will be that of the Grand Trunk railway, the pioneer road of Canada, and the only double track system of that country. Not only is this road to participate in the transportation display at the ter-centennial, but they will have a special building to house their expensive exhibits.

Although the headquarters of this immense system is located in Canada, the company intend to have a display second to none, and with this in view they will erect a handsome building in a central location of the exposition grounds.

Mr. H. R. Charlton, advertising agent, and Mr. B. McM. Smith, southern passenger agent, of the Grand Trunk system, and officials of the Jamestown ter-centennial, were in conference at the exposition headquarters in Norfolk, some time ago, and it was then decided by the company to erect a building, the plans for which to be immediately put into execution.

The decision of the company to participate in the exposition makes them the second trunk line to determine upon such a course, the Southern railway having decided to display a splendid exhibit of the varied resources along its thousand miles of track. The Baltimore and Ohio railroad are considering an exhibit in engine construction, the plan being to give a graphic illustration of the progress made in this line of industry, by exhibiting the first engine ever used by the B. and O. alongside of one of their present day monsters.

The exhibit of the Grand Trunk railway will be unique in that it will contain enlarged pictures of the summer resorts along their tracks, beautifully executed by noted artists, which in themselves will be works of art. Specimens of fish, game and other products so abundant in the regions through which the system passes will all be displayed. The feature of the display, however, will be the mineral exhibit. One from the great mines at "Cobalt" and "Ontario," called the "New Silverdale," on account of its great wealth of ore, will be made. This mine was opened last year and is considered one of the richest silver fields in the world.

## REWARDED FOR SHOOTING.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 16.—After investigating the killing of Mlle. Semenov, a young medical student confined in the central prison at St. Petersburg, who was shot dead by a sentry on Sept. 10, when she showed herself at the window of her cell overlooking the courtyard, the commander of the St. Petersburg, has thanked the soldier who killed the girl and has given a reward of five dollars. In addition, the soldier is upheld in the order of the day as an example to his comrades of the faithful performance of duty. The prisoners claimed that the sentry fired without any warning of provocation, while the sentry said he ordered Mlle. Semenov four times to leave the window, where she and some of her companions were taunting members of the Semenovskiy regiment with the part they had taken in the suppression of the revolt at Moscow, which resulted in the assassination of General Min, who was formerly colonel of the regiment.

## FOURTEEN LIVES LOST.

(Bulletin Special.) Birmingham, Oct. 19.—A boarding house on Twelfth and Third streets was destroyed by fire and fourteen lives lost.

## THE CHURCH AND ITS MODERN PROBLEM.

Toronto Globe: The attitude of the church to the acute forms of the problem of life today is touched at once with infinite sadness and with unconquerable hope. The pathos of it is in the magnificence of the church's claim to divine power, and the confusion and helplessness of the church's effort when faced by the problem of human trouble and need. The hope of it is in the persistence with which the church returns to its problem, and the eagerness with which it seeks the cause of its own failure. As at the foot of Transfiguration, the world still brings its problem of demopossession and life-paralysis to the church; the testimony against the disciples today, as of old, too often is "they were not able"; and yet, despite the failure and baffling and shame of it all, the church goes back into its secret place and with an earnestness that will not fail nor be discouraged asks its own age-long question, "Why could not we cast it out?" When the church has that question on its lips and that burden on its heart there always comes to it a solving of the problem.

At bottom that problem is the same as of old. Its external appearance and concrete forms may change from age to age, but in those deeper elements that constitute the hardness and the darkness of life there is a 'monotony' that makes the whole world kin. The changing of the industrial and social order changes only the face of the problem, while at its heart there is still the beat of human trouble and the pang of vain regret.

Today the situation which tries the skill and staggers the confidence of the church takes in the question of the saloon and the drink habit, of child labor and long hours and hard conditions, of eye-service and scamp work among employees and of unwhipped relations and grinding wages among employers, of dishonesty in trade, of exploitation in finance, and of malfeasance in public life. It is a hard problem, and behind it lies a still darker background of social life clouded with ignorance and stained with wrong.

But in the last analysis the problem is moral and spiritual. Its solution involves the laws of economics and the principles of politics, but its roots go down deeper into human nature than the expedients of social reformers can ever penetrate. The ideal of socialism is worthy, the self-sacrifice presupposed by communism is noble, the principle of anarchy is noble, the principle of human nature, but no one of these nor all of them working together will solve the modern problem and keep it solved for a generation. Much would be done by shorter hours and better wages and an improved social environment, but something more would need to be done or the last stage of our social situation might be worse than the first. It is a question not only of economics but of ethics, not only of improved conditions but of a clearer sense of duty and a will to do the right. As never before the trust funds in social reform and the foremost leaders in the labor movement are impressed by the fact that essentially and fundamentally the problem with which they deal is in its profoundest aspects both moral and religious.

That conviction which experience has wrought out gives the church its acknowledged standing in the presence of a disordered social system and an unjust economic condition. And if the church of today would stand unashamed in the presence of the need of today it must have in its leadership men of understanding and throughout its membership a spirit of love. The church as represented by the average pulpit still cuts a sorry figure in the midst of life's paralysis and pain. But the eager and passionate tone of its "Why?" is the note of hope alike for the church and the world.

But the church needs something more than a knowledge either of the facts of human need or of the secret of its own failure. The church may not pronounce on this or that land theory, and may be divided as to a political policy or a scheme of temperance reform. But what about lying and adultery and theft,

which its own ten commandments condemn and for which the Sermon on the Mount bespeaks a Gehenna? And what about the men who yesterday were under the white light of guilty exposure and who tomorrow will sit in the dimness and quiet where the preacher speaks the awful claims of right and truth? Has the church a message, not to a disordered social condition without, but to a concrete moral wrong within? Courage as well as knowledge is needed or the church can never master its modern problem.

## WILL CONSULT CHURCHES.

The Archbishop of Rupert's Land returned to the city this morning from London where he attended the semi-annual meeting of the board of management of the missionary society of the general synod.

"The subjects discussed at the meeting of the committee were chiefly of a routine nature," said the Archbishop to the Free Press. "The general affairs and work of the missionary society come up for discussion and there are many less important matters" which require the consideration of the members of the committee.

"A matter of rather more importance than usual was the consideration of the disposition to be made of the industrial and boarding schools, now carried on and maintained among the Indians of the country, and the manner in which this work is to be done in the years to come. The burden of carrying on this work and it is a heavy one and it has been felt as such for some years, especially at the present time when we are making strenuous efforts to keep pace with the development of the country and to supply the necessary churches and clergymen to the new settlers of the west."

"The opinion of our body as expressed at the meeting at London was to the effect that the time had come when the church should be relieved of this burden which we think should be assumed by the government of Canada."

It was decided that the Presbyterian and Methodist bodies should be consulted with and if the decision of these bodies is found to agree with ours, we will then ask the government to take action and we apprehend that the government will be ready to assume the duty which really appertains to the whole people. It is unnecessary to say that there will be some provisions in the agreement which we will ask for, but nothing to which objection should be taken. Mr. S. H. Blake, the chairman of our committee will correspond with the representatives of the Presbyterian and Methodist churches and will ascertain what the sentiments of these bodies are."

"The matter of the grants to be made to the western diocese was taken up and allocation of the sums to be asked from each. The grants in some cases, notably in the case of the diocese of Saskatchewan, increased, but the amount to be asked from the various dioceses was not increased. It was not thought wise to ask for an increase at the present time."

"The meeting was interrupted to some extent by the lamented death of Archbishop Bond of Montreal. I secured my railway ticket with the expectation that I would be able to go to Montreal to attend the funeral but I found it impossible to get away from London. The committee thought it better that I should remain as I was deeply interested in the business before the committee, as representing the great mission field of the west. A delegation was appointed to represent the committee at the funeral service at Montreal."

"An interesting meeting devoted to missions, presided over by the Bishop of Qu'Appelle, was held in the city of Qu'Appelle, where Archbishop Lloyd during our stay Archbishop Pentreath being among the speakers. Archbishop Lloyd spoke of the work in the new country in the new diocese very effectively. On Wednesday evening there was a service in the cathedral when I spoke. All the meetings were marked by a deep spirit of interest and great harmony prevailed throughout."

## FARMERS MEET.

SOUTHERN ALBERTA. Carleton Place, Ont.—The second semi-annual convention of the Southern Alberta County Union of the Canadian Society of Equity was held at Carleton Place, October 18th.

The House was called to order at 11 o'clock by President R. W. Wallace. A motion was made and carried that the president appoint three men to act as a Resolution Committee. Those appointed were Mr. Thompson of Leavenworth, Mr. Matheson of Rocky Coulee and Mr. Walton of Macleod. After discussion along lines the convention was adjourned until 1:30 p.m. During the afternoon session the following important business was transacted:

The minutes of the last convention, which was held at High River, were read by Secretary J. J. Strang and approved by the house, after which the resolution committee was called upon to report. The following resolutions were framed by the committee and approved by the house:

Resolved that we ask all implement men who sell threshing machines to handle the Moose Jaw Cleaner or some

similar cleaner and that they be priced on such terms that the thrasher-men could afford to get them.

Resolved that we in convention ask the Dominion Government to take the tariff off from lumber, and also that we as farmers are willing to have our produce put on the free list. And that the general tariff be reduced to a maximum for revenue only.

Resolved that we ask the provincial government to build and maintain packing houses and cold storage plants within the province.

Resolved that we appoint a committee at our provincial convention to meet the millers of the Old Country and make arrangements with them for buying our surplus grain.

Resolved that we as a society object to the grain exchange trading in futures, and that we ask the provincial government to bring this matter before the Dominion Government and ask them to take steps in the matter.

Resolved that we ask the C. P. R. officials to grant all delegates of the Canadian Society of Equity reduced rates.

After the above resolutions were approved the matter of a loading platform came up. The secretary was instructed to inform Hon. C. C. Castle, warehouse commissioner, of the failure on the part of the C.P.R. Co. to build a loading platform at Carleton Place and ask him to enforce the law in this regard.

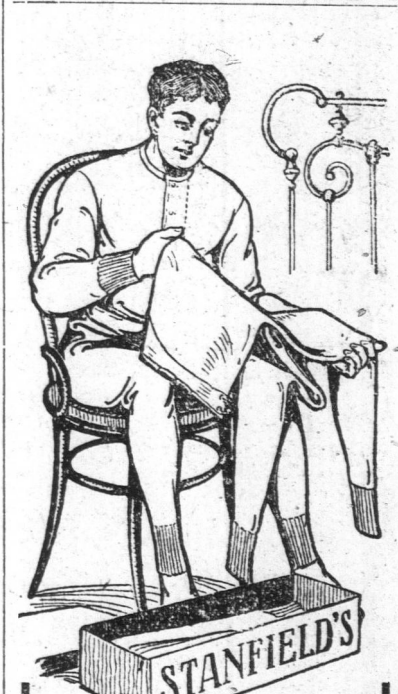
Mr. Pearson, of Carleton Place, suggested that Local Unions in general and the Carleton Place Local Union in particular be urged to wake up. This suggestion was loudly applauded and unanimously approved by the house.

The treasurer's report showed a small balance on the debtor side, but six good Equity men headed by Mr. R. W. Wallace came forward with \$1.00 each and made it possible to start the new term free from debt.

A motion was made by Mr. Walton of Macleod and seconded by Mr. Pearson of Carleton Place, that each Local Union be taxed \$2.00 to defray the expenses of a County delegate to the provincial convention which is to be held at Lacombe, Alta., on the 25th, 26th and 27th of Oct. 1906.

Mr. M. A. Strang of Carleton Place was elected to represent the County Union of Southern Alberta at the provincial convention.

The following County officers were elected—R. W. Wallace, President; C. Thompson, Vice President; M. A. Strang, Secretary-Treasurer; M. A. Strang, General Organizer.



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mare, four years old, white, white eye, 2 hind white feet, 200 lbs. from four miles north-west, \$300 reward. Return to McBride, Edmonton.

Metaskewin, about August 1st, weight about 100 lbs. white, left hind foot grey, indistinct X on shoulder, \$15 reward. Return to McBride, Edmonton.

Teacher for the Strathcona School, 1st or 2nd grade. Duties about November 1st, 1906.

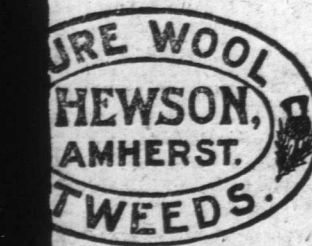
CONNELLY, Secretary.

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