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SAINT JOHN, WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPT. 22, 1909.

THE VALLEY RAILWAY.

It is now several months since the St. John Valley delegation waited upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Minister of Railways and made known to them the proposition of the Provincial Government for the construction of the St. John Valley Railway. The Premier was informed that the New Brunswick Administration was prepared to give an adequate guarantee, provided the Department of Railways would operate the line as part of the Intercolonial system on the usual percentage plan. This Sir Wilfrid Laurier declared to be a definite proposition. He promised that the Government would give it consideration and make an early reply. That was early last spring. The early reply has not yet been made.

Mr. Pugsley and Mr. Carvell have both offered excuses for the delay. They have both contradicted the Premier by declaring that Mr. Hazen's proposition was not definite. Neither has explained wherein it falls short. Mr. Hazen gave the amount of the guarantee. He gave distinctly the conditions. He even mentioned the percentage of the net earnings which the Railway Department would be asked to pay. If there is anything more that should be made known Mr. Hazen has stated that he will be happy to supply the deficiency. The Attorney General has so written to the secretary of the company from whom he received Mr. Pugsley's letter of excuse for the Premier's failure to keep his promise. It was suggested by one of the apologists that Mr. Hazen had not submitted his proposition in writing. The fact was that he gave it to the delegation which waited upon him. It was taken down verbatim, and so submitted to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. But Mr. Hazen has again explained that if Sir Wilfrid desires to have the proposition put in any terms that would seem to be more authoratative he is ready to do that. Thus all the explanations of the delay are swept away and still there is no answer. Sir Wilfrid neither gives his promised reply nor explains why he does not give it, nor raises any of the questions which Mr. Pugsley and Mr. Carvell have propounded. He treats the whole matter with indifference.

Of course Mr. Pugsley and Mr. Carvell could easily obtain a statement from the Premier if they desired it. The Minister of Public Works seems to have lost the interest he formerly expressed in this enterprise. If he now felt such an interest he would try to induce his leader to say yes or no to Mr. Hazen's proposal. Either answer would further the movement, the former by enabling arrangements for the construction of the road to be made at once, the latter by clearing the way for another plan. A refusal to answer blocks the way completely.

PEARY AT SYDNEY.

It was Peary the explorer and not Peary the controversialist who received a royal greeting at Sydney yesterday. In no part of the world outside of his own town is Commander Peary better known than at Sydney. Going and coming for twenty years, he has been with the people of the Cape Breton port, and eleven times they have welcomed him back from the north. This time with greater enthusiasm they greet him as a conqueror. He is not less a hero, and his achievement is no less, if another man has also been at the goal which explorers have sought for centuries. Commander Peary could well have afforded to leave to others and to time the determination whether Dr. Cook has been at the pole, and have contented himself with the story of his own adventure. But if he made the mistake of entering into a disputation the people assembled on the Sydney water front were not concerned with it. They gave him a great welcome on his return to the continent of America. It is a recognition earned by a lifetime of persistent and determined effort to accomplish one purpose, now finally achieved.

Others will reach this desired spot from year to year, and in time the northern limit of land around the globe will be ascertained if there are any lands farther north than those already charted. The depth of water, the current and drift of the ice, the northern limits of life on land, and in the sea, will be ascertained. The desire of men to know all there is to be learned about the Arctic regions will not be satisfied until other explorers have gone to the limit under better conditions for research. But whatever is learned or attempted, the year 1908 or 1909 will remain the climax of North Pole exploration. If it should be the former year, it will be remembered that the expedition of the next year was independent of all knowledge of the previous discoverer, and was therefore an original exploration. Those who go to the pole hereafter will be following Cook or Peary or both.

GATHERING AND DISTRIBUTION.

Mr. Harriman left to his wife the whole estate of which he died possessed. No one is quite certain whether he had not given a part to his family before his death, but it is judged that Mrs. Harriman rivals Mrs. Russell Sage as the richest woman in the world.

It is also remarked that Mr. Harriman did not leave any money to charitable or public purposes. Neither did Russell Sage, but he left his to Mrs. Sage with the understanding that the whole of it would be managed and distributed for the public benefit. Mrs. Sage is struggling with this trust, which is more difficult than the work of making money was to her husband.

Reflecting persons will understand why Mr. Sage and Mr. Harriman left to their wives the distribution of their vast accumulations. These men had capacity in different fields of activity connected with money making. They had studied these arts. In the art of getting rid of money they were mere amateurs without the amateur's natural gift or liking for this trade. They were willing that their money or a large part of it should be used for benevolent or public purposes, but they were engaged in gathering it in, and could not do the two things at once if they could do the other at all. Therefore they kept on at their special function, and when they had finished, placed their wives in a position to carry on the other enterprise. This is the way it was with Russell Sage, and it is a fair guess that Mr. Harriman has proceeded on the same principle.

Mr. Carnegie is a less modest man. He considers himself capable of performing the functions of a distributor as well as a gatherer of wealth. But it is understood that with all his givings he is only spending the interest of his investments, and it should be noted that he did not fairly begin distribution on a large scale until he had gone out of all other business. Versatile as he is he did not attempt to carry on the two trades at the same time.

BLUNDERING AND INEFFICIENT OFFICIALS.

Canadian complaint over the interference of United States immigration officials with passengers from Canada to the border states, is supported by the New York Sun, which says:—

"The action of the Canadian Railroad Commission in attempting to check the United States immigration officers whose interference with passengers on Canadian trains has resulted in many complaints indicates that conditions in that department of the Government are not very different from those that exist in the customs service. The immigration inspectors, indeed, have long been noted for their blundering officiousness and their incivility.

"Their task is delicate, as is that of the customs men, and experience shows that its performance is the cause of constant friction. The mystery of the situation is the neglect or refusal of the Government to recognize the desirability of selecting only tactful and careful men for such work. Incidents which will recur to the memories of all show how completely the comfort of travellers is ignored. It is not forgotten that inspectors on a Canadian railroad insulted and held up the special mission from China to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, or that a genius of the service only a little while ago detained a man with a broken head on his way to a hospital for treatment until a bond was given in his behalf.

"Out of the thousands of men in Government employ or eager to enter it selections could easily enough be made of persons capable of performing the trying duties of immigration and customs inspectors without undue offence to those who must submit to their ministrations. Obviously this is not done. There are always a number of uncouth individuals in the Federal uniform who make the necessary examinations an ordeal unnecessarily irritating and sometimes intolerably offensive."

THE MONTREAL CYCLONE.

Never was change in a municipal system demanded by such a sweeping vote as that by which Montreal has declared for the establishment of a board of control and a reduction in the number of aldermen. The minority in some wards rose to the proportion of one-fourth or one-fifth of the vote. In others it was a few struggling votes, too few to be noticed. On the whole, about one vote in ten was for retaining the established order. The condemnation of graft and the desire to escape from it was so near universal, that in some polling places the grafters must have had to vote by themselves.

Yet there was an organized Opposition. Several aldermen, including those who have been in the search light have been energetically campaigning against the proposed change. One, at least, of these is a prominent Liberal politician, who has, during the late investigation by Judge Cannon, enjoyed the honor much coveted by officers in active service. Alderman Mederic Martin has been frequently "mentioned in despatches." But eminent as he is, and strong as his pull was supposed to be, he and his cause were condemned by a vote of a large number to one in his own ward and district. Two or three ambitious, but not very scrupulous politicians have come to grief in this campaign, and have left their future behind them.

RELIGIOUS GROWTH IN THE UNITED STATES.

The United States bureau has been compiling returns of the religious census giving the conditions at the end of 1906. The last previous census of this kind was for the year 1890, so that it is now possible to note the changes in sixteen years. The Boston Transcript makes this summary:—

"During the sixteen years, the population of the continental United States increased 33.8 per cent.; but in the number of communicants or Church members there was an increase of 60.4 per cent.; in the number of Church edifices, an increase of 35.3 per cent., and in the value of Church property an increase of 85.1 per cent. In 1890 the reported Church membership represented 32.7 per cent. of the total population; in 1906, 39.1 per cent."

The proportion of ministers to Church members was larger in 1906 than in 1890. Among churches which have made the largest gains are the Roman Catholics, whose numbers have nearly doubled; the Disciples, who come first of Protestant churches in increase; the Lutheran and Protestant Episcopal churches which have gained over 65 per cent.; the Baptists and Adventists, who have gained 50 per cent.; while many other bodies have made large advances. The Transcript concludes that "in so far as figures can gauge religious progress, the report is distinctly reassuring—an invitation to all the churches to 'thank God and take courage.'"

A FEAST OF TERROR.

"As the date of the banquet to Dr. Pugsley draws nigh the signs of mental perturbation and distress in The Standard and Globe offices grow more manifest and unmistakable."

So says the St. John Times, whose own genuine opinion of Mr. Pugsley formerly expressed and occasionally quoted in these columns, is not particularly flattering.

This is the first intimation given to the public that the banquet is likely to be dangerous. Even yet it is permitted to hope that the minister will temper his after dinner eloquence with mercy. He is usually as mild a mannered man as ever scuttled the finances of a province. It cannot be that he is now coming among us in wrath to spread terror among those who have failed to keep step with his multitudinous political changes.

Two Liberals are in the field for the Federal election of Montcalm, made vacant by the appointment of the late member to the bench. The Conservatives have not won an election there for thirteen years, and have left the Liberals to fight it out. Postmaster General Lemieux appeared on nomination day with three ministerial members of Parliament to speak for the Government nominee. The minister read a letter from Sir Wilfrid Laurier "ratifying the choice of Mr. Lapierre." Mr. Lemieux accused the other candidate of "a breach of party discipline." The electors will be heard from on Saturday.

The Sackville Tribune announces that Provincial Secretary Flemming has allowed Gloucester county to escape paying in full its debt to the Provincial Hospital. The Tribune is not hampered with any information on the subject, and this is its guess. It is not stated what settlement was made, but it will doubtless be found equitable. The late Government left the matter long unsettled as it did almost everything else.

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PITHY PARAGRAPHS OF LOCAL INTEREST.

In the Police Court.

In the police court yesterday in the case of Thomas Foley, accused of stealing a purse on the 11th inst. Deputy Chief Jenkins told the court of the arrest of Foley on the Monday following the theft. Mr. E. S. Ritchie appeared for the accused and asked the court to remand the prisoner for the present, instead of sending him to the higher court. The magistrate remanded Foley for the present.

Deer for the Park.

Yesterday morning Mr. Labey, superintendent of harbor dredging, discovered a small male deer in an exhausted state swimming in the harbor. He placed it on a dredge and communicated with the authorities of the Rockwood Park. It was considered inadvisable to let the animal loose in the streets of St. John, so the deer was taken out to the park, where it was placed among others of its kind, with whom it will, no doubt, soon make friends.

Winding Up Order Granted.

In supreme court chambers yesterday morning before Judge McKeown, Mr. William Murray, appearing for G. E. Mercier, one of the directors of the Restigouche Woodworking Company, applied for a winding up order. Mr. W. A. Mott, who appeared for 376 shares out of 500, representing Mr. W. S. Montgomery and others, consented, and on order, was granted by His Honor winding up the company. A date has not yet been set for the hearing.

Commissioners' Fees Reduced.

An appeal was heard on Monday by Judge Carleton of Woodstock against the taxed costs in the arbitration matter between the International Railway Company and the N. B. Railway Company. His Honor decided he had jurisdiction to tax the costs and assessed them at $20 a day each for the commissioners. When the commissioners filed their award the International Railway was notified that they could obtain it on payment of $4,500. This was made up of $50 a day for the chairman and $40 a day for the members.

Rev. Mr. Titus Resigns.

Rev. George W. Titus has tendered his resignation of the pasorate of Coburg Street Christian Church, and has accepted the charge of the Christian church and congregation at Port William, N. S. He will cease his work at the local church late in October. Much regret is felt at his resignation, as his connection with the Coburg street church has been productive of excellent results. It is understood that while meeting the demands of his new pastorate Rev. Mr. Titus will also take a theological course at Acadia University.

TRANS-ATLANTIC TRIP NOW DREAM OF AVIATORS

Frenchmen Already Turning Their Attention to Trans-Ocean Journey --- Declare That Feat is Within Sight.

FRENCH—PAGE 5

Paris, Sept. 21.—The first specimen of the gold medal which the French Academy of Science has decided to confer each year upon the best aviator, French or foreign, has already been struck at the Paris mint. The design represents on one side Boreas fleeing through the air with Orithyia, daughter of the King of Athens, with the inscription underneath "Coelum patet ibimus illuc," and on the other side Space, filled with monoplanes, biplanes and dirigibles.

French aviators have no cause to complain of lack of encouragement, for besides these medals all manner of new prizes are being offered for the best flights from one town to another. It is said that the offer of a huge prize which would make it worth their while from some rich American is all that is needed to stimulate aviators to the attempt to crossing the Atlantic. One aviator has even gone so far as to say that this dream will be realized before the lapse of two or three years, so rapidly has the science of flying advanced during the last twelve months.

The great obstacle to such an attempt is considered to be the impossibility of carrying a compass to guide the traveller and the fact that a second passenger, a navigator, would have to be taken in the aeroplane, because the aviator's attention is so keenly fixed upon the motor, its guidance and the general management of the machine that he would have no time to see where he was going.

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NEWS OF A DAY

Toronto, Sept. 21.—With throat cut from ear to ear and a pocketknife with which the gash had been made, tightly clutched in his hand, Abraham Cohen was found dead in his bathroom yesterday at his mother's home, King street. Cohen was a motorman on the street railway.

Port Dalhousie, Ont., Sept. 21.—The body of Mary Brissell, aged four years, was found in the river yesterday afternoon. The child had been missing for ten days. The body was much decomposed. It was taken at once to St. Catherines by her father for burial.

Brantford, Ont., Sept. 21.—The Bell homestead on the outskirts of the city in which Alexander Graham Bell conducted his early experiments on the telephone, has been acquired by the Brantford park commissioners and will be maintained as a memorial of the inventor. The house is surrounded by spacious rounds, which will be converted into a park.

Campbellton, N. B., Sept. 21.—Robert Caroiin, a stevedore, here, last night lost about $150 and a quantity of jewelry he had in his pocket. Yesterday he was paid off, and last night with a couple of young men, he visited a number of saloons and all were more or less intoxicated by midnight. At an early hour this morning Carolin missed his money and valuables and his companions had left for other parts. Chief Crawford was notified, and is after the young men, who were supposed to be down the line.

Belleville, Ont., Sept. 21.—Relatives of Edward Kaitting, killed at the Ottawa fair last week while assisting to release the Nassr airship, will enter action for damages against the Ottawa Fair Association. Both the daily papers have opened subscription lists for the widow, who is left with six small children without means. Mrs. Kaitting has been forced to part with her three months' old infant, as she is in delicate health. The family is very highly respected.

The will has been proved of Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Maitland Tombs Hutchinson of Cheltenham, the oldest surviving descendant of Robert Burns. She left £1,056.

South African gold to the value of £1,143,271, was landed from the liner Kildonan Castle at Southampton, the largest consignment ever shipped from Africa.

WEDDINGS.

Murray—Price.

A pretty wedding was performed yesterday afternoon at 5.30 o'clock in St. James' church, when the pastor, Rev. J. A. Hand united in marriage Mr. Robert H. Murray and Miss Ada W. Price, both of this city. They were unattended. After the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Murray left on the Calvin Austin for a trip to Boston and New York, and on their return will reside at 254 Brittain street. Many presents were received from friends in the city and also from Boston, New York and other places.

Beatty—Wiggins.

The wedding was solemnized in Trinity church yesterday afternoon of Miss Mabel Josephine, eldest daughter of Mr. Abram W. Wiggins, of Young's Cove, Queens county, to Mr. William Y. Beatty of the firm of Beatty and Johnson, Main St., St. John. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. B. Stewart. The bride was attired in a pretty grey travelling suit with hat to match and carried a dainty white book of the marriage service of the Church of England. The bridesmaid, Miss Lulu Dickson, wore a white dress, a black picture hat, and carried a beautiful white bouquet. The bride was given away by her cousin, Mr. John Warner. Mr. William Gordon of this city supported the groom. Mr. and Mrs. Beatty left last evening on the S. S. Calvin Austin for a two weeks' honeymoon trip to Boston and New York. On their return to St. John, they will reside at Carvill Hall. The many presents received showed the popularity of the young couple.

DEATHS.

Mr. Samuel G. Charlton.

The funeral of Mr. Samuel G. Charlton was held yesterday afternoon at 2.30 from his late residence, South Bay. Rev. F. E. Bishop conducted the services. Interment was made in Cedar Hill cemetery.

PERSONAL.

Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Low of Sydney passed through the city last evening en route for Fredericton to visit the exhibition.

Mr. G. Grey Murdoch left last evening for Montreal.

Mr. William Downie, divisional superintendent of the C. P. R., left last evening in his private car, Rosemere, for Montreal. Accompanying him were his sister, Miss Downie, of Toronto, and his cousin, Miss Beatty, of Sarnia, who have been spending the sumer at Duck Cove and are returning home.

Mrs. Harry Macdonell left last evening for Montreal.

Miss Mary Blight of Hillsboro is the guest of the Misses Comben, 20 City Road.

Mrs. William Murdoch and Miss Margaret Murdoch left last evening for Sussex, where they will spend a week at the "Knoll."

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EXECUTORS' NOTICE.

All persons indebted to the Estate of Herbert C. Tilley will make payment to the undersigned. Leonard P. D. Tilley, barrister, Canada Life Building, St. John, and all persons having claims against the said estate will file the same duly attested, with the latter mentioned undersigned.

Dated September 17th, 1909.
ELIZABETH S. TILLEY,
FRANK KINNEAR,
LEONARD P. D. TILLEY,
Executors.

CLOSING COTTON LETTER.

By direct private wires to J. C. Mackintosh & Co., St. John, N. B.

New York, Sept. 21.—The leading options definitely crossed the 13-cent mark today and while there was heavy liquidation around that price, cut largely into the day's gross gains, the final range was well above yesterday's closing, however. Our market was without the influence of New Orleans quotations or speculative operations for no wires have as yet penetrated the storm area. It is, therefore, impossible to form an estimate of the damage that has been done. Many people conjecture that the injury wrought will affect the quality rather than the quantity of the crop at this time, but some fears are expressed that the storm may be followed by an early frost. Some heavy spot sales were reported at various Southern points. As an instance