

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH
is published every Wednesday and Saturday at \$1.00 a year, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE, by The Telegraph Publishing Company, of St. John, a company incorporated by Act of the Legislature of New Brunswick.
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Ordinary commercial advertisements taking the run of the paper, each insertion, \$1.00 per line.
Advertisements of Wants, For Sale, etc., one cent a word for each insertion.
Notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths 50 cents for each insertion.

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Semi-Weekly Telegraph
ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 31, 1906

A POSSIBLE QUARREL

When San Francisco was smitten by the earthquake and the fire and the civilized world was shocked by the extremities to which the people of the Golden Gate were reduced, Japan, which was then recovering slowly from the ruinous expenditure of blood and treasure in the war with Russia, was the first of the nations to send relief. The offer was spontaneous and generous, and the people of San Francisco accepted it gladly. That was but yesterday, and today the financiers and the statesmen of France are actually making inquiries as to Japan's ability to finance a war against the United States, and asking what would be the attitude of the several first class powers in case the Yankees of the East and the Yankees of the West were to go to fighting. The immediate cause for this as yet undrawn sword is the action of San Francisco in excluding Japanese children from its schools. A war is unlikely at present, yet there are awkward features in the present situation, and there is no little evidence that a clash between Japan and the United States is very likely to come within ten or twenty years, if not sooner.

There is an inclination in many capitals at the moment to look over the relative situations of the two peoples. At the first glance the Philippines are seen to be an inviting point of attack in case of hostilities. Japan could occupy those islands, and Russia's experience suggests that the United States might labor in vain to dispossess her. To lose the Philippines would not be to lose much, if that were all, but the Americans are an irrepressible people and they are irrevocably committed to the retention of these islands, whatever the cost. Control of the Pacific and trade and race rivalry in many ways complicate the situation. Japan has carved out a vast new market, the beginning of a period of commercial and industrial expansion which will strike hard at the trade and prestige of the United States. In addition to this her aggressive, persistent and unyielding dispute with the native Americans for employment in and even for control of industries in California and contiguous territory. American labor is fiercely hostile to the Japanese. The American politicians may soon find themselves choosing between the abrogation of their treaty with Japan and an American labor revolt over the proposal to give the incoming Japanese equal rights and privileges with the native born.

The sovereign state of California has its own ideas about the yellow races, just as Louisiana had its own ideas about the Italians. But while Italy was not disposed fearlessly to press home its case regardless of awkward consequences, Japan is of different metal. The friction of today may have no serious results, but the developments of the future appear certain to aggravate the feeling which underlies the common saying that if the United States has a war with the next few years its antagonist will be Germany or Japan, and more likely Japan.

SEVENTY-FIVE CENT GAS

No doubt it is just as "impossible" to sell gas at seventy-five cents a thousand feet in Toronto as it is in Montreal or anywhere else. Still, Toronto is today getting gas at seventy-five cents—Montreal Herald.

So it is. And presumably the seventy-five cent gas gives pretty decent light. The Herald thinks it outrageous that some of the Montreal aldermen are discussing a new contract for gas at ninety-five cents for a few years with periodic five-cent reductions to follow. No doubt the Herald is quite right. Here in St. John no alderman dare mention the price of gas above a whisper, it being the settled belief at City Hall that St. John should pay \$1.75 or \$1.85 for "wretched gas so long as the company can keep up the joke. In St. John the aldermen are conservative and pleasant gentlemen who would not care to have a lot of conservative and pleasant owners of gas stock looking at them with disapproval. No one here, of course, will be interested in a discussion of the saving possible through a reduction in the price of light; but all the same we shall quote something on this subject from the Herald, so suggestive is it in our present situation:

"The gas consumption in Toronto is given at 1,400,000 thousand feet. How much it is in Montreal is not definitely known, because that is one of the things that the Power Company holds to be none of its business. But it ought to be as much as in Toronto, not to say a great deal more, the two populations being compared. In Toronto, in this year of grace, they are paying seventy-five cents a thousand; in Montreal we are for years to come Russia could give no

paying \$1.20 a thousand. The excess paid by Montreal is thus forty-five cents a thousand.
"To be enabled to save forty-five cents a thousand on 1,400,000 thousand feet of gas would be worth to the people of this city \$630,000 a year. They do it that much better in Toronto. In Montreal our best business ward cannot be induced to discuss such a thing. Anything else, but not the live question of the hour."

Oh, yes, it is true that the gas burned here in St. John is small in quantity as compared with Toronto. But no wonder! Does anyone suppose the consumption of gas is going to increase when the price is prohibitive and the light almost useless? The local company will not voluntarily reduce the price. It by no means follows that the price will not come down.

THE TRUTH ABOUT HEARST

Hearst may be a demagogue and worse. His methods are those of the political highbinder and journalistic charlatan. But the proclamation of these truths about Hearst does not excuse the existence, and the flourishing existence, of the evils and the criminals whom he denounces, and of the conditions which have made it possible for a man of his stamp to aspire, with some hope of success, to the highest office in the Republic. All the men who will vote for Hearst are neither crazy nor criminal. Many of both classes will be in his train; but it is the others who make his candidature the serious problem of the hour.

The Rev. Dr. R. Heber Newton, in a letter to the New York Times, indicates with the unsparring hand of the social surgeon the weakness in the anti-Hearst campaign of today. He "concedes the truth of pretty much all that is said of the objectionable character of the man and his methods, noting the while that Hearst has in special cases achieved noteworthy practical results for labor as against the depredations of monopoly, and that he is not the only one who has undertaken a 'personally conducted tour to the White House,' or the only one, even as against 'respectable' candidates, who is using money and 'business methods' to win success in politics. But the point he wishes to make is that matters are reaching a critical stage and safe and sane people have been doing nothing for adequate correction."

"The gravity of the social situation—the reality and seriousness of the 'menace of privilege'—cannot be questioned. It is alike moral and philanthropic—if one may put aside those whom God hath joined together. It is on the one hand the corruption which is eating out the fiber of our business world, as disclosed in the awful revelations of the past year; and on the other hand, the deep distress, the sickening misery which lies below our fair outer crust of society, the inevitable deposit of a competitive civilization. What Mark Hanna is reported to have said of Mr. Rockefeller is true of our people as a whole—'money-mad.' We are now reaping the fruits of this money-madness in the industrial revolt which is growing so fast and so strong against things as they are." This, says Dr. Newton, "is the mounting war on the crest of which Hearst has thrown himself, skillfully; whose deep ground swell is now bearing him on so portentously."

The failure of the "safe and sane" element to remedy the growing evils of the day has made Hearst possible. "When things have been permitted to reach such a pass, almost any demagogue leadership becomes possible from the lack of any better leadership which has been duly killed off by overconservative respectability. Arguments about Mr. Hearst's character are largely lost on the public feeling such as is now aroused. When a man is angry, and wants to hit out hard, he does not stop to ask whether the club he finds at hand is made of iron, wood, or ivory, or only a garbled and knotted bit of common hickory. When a man is angry and wants to make himself heard he will be apt to use any trumpet he can lay his hands on, whether made of gold or of the brassiest brass. Had our safe and sane citizens been awake to the seriousness of the situation they would not have left their misguided fellow-citizens to such a Hobson's choice as they now have."

He regards the choice in New York state as of a Hobson character because, "while Mr. Hughes is a fine representative of the moral protest against our saturnalism of graft, he appears in no wise to represent the philanthropic protest against the social wrongs of our predatory wealth; he seems allied to the deep denunciation of our triumphant democracy. And at least the party leaders back of him, who accepted him reluctantly to save themselves from defeat, are not at all alive to the economic issue and are so tied up with the predatory interests that they would not accept or present the issue if they were alive to it."

The Hearst peril has its use. It may arouse the plain and honest majority of the people to a new sense of duty and responsibility. Hearst will not run away with the United States, and wreck it; and in the end it may be the better for his dash at the presidency.

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

While no official admission confirms the report concerning an alliance embracing Great Britain, France and Italy, the reasons favoring such an alliance are many, and the belief that it is already agreed upon has much to warrant it. We are not yet at the end of the momentous train of events following the British decision to make an ally of Japan. That decision, it must now be clear, hastened the war which humbled Russia and revealed that nation as masquerading behind a formidable reputation. The defeat of Russia and the revelations attending it relieved Germany of a menace from the East, and greatly lessened the British anxiety about India. France had been the banker of an ally which was supposed to be almost the greatest military power in Europe. The war made France realize that her loans were in peril, and that

great military support to a friend whatever the friend's need. And as Russia went down in the scale Germany and Japan rose—the latter's victory giving new importance to the Anglo-Japanese treaty, while Germany, no longer having Russia to think about, was free to undertake an aggressive campaign of expansion, having for its ultimate goal a vast German federation embracing Austria on the one hand and Holland and Belgium on the other. France, though rich and thrifty, has a stationary population and carries with increasing difficulty the burden of tremendous military expenditures in point not only of money, but of national energy. In these circumstances it was natural that France should receive with favor any proposals which the British might make looking to a common guarantee against German aggression in any direction threatening to the peace of Europe and of the world.

Germany is at once the puzzle and the menace of Europe. The really wonderful growth and organized power of the country continually increases the anxiety with which Europe anticipates the death of Francis Joseph. When he dies, then, and there would be no effective bar to any German policy unless it were a protest headed by Britain and backed by France. The called reports about the new movement to compel Germany to act reasonably gives us new interest in the progress of this most formidable military and industrial power. Figures just furnished from a British source show strikingly how Germany has gained upon Britain both in population and in industrial achievement. While the population of the United Kingdom increased from 37,400,000 to 42,200,000 between 1880 and 1905, that of Germany advanced from 49,000,000 to 60,000,000. But the evidence of industrial and commercial development is still more striking. Between 1890 and 1904, 8,000 miles of new railroad was built in Germany against 2,400 miles in Great Britain; and while the gross receipts of railroads in the latter increased from \$384,453,500 to \$545,048,000 in that period, in Germany the increase was from \$306,589,500 to \$519,915,000. The volume of transportation has a direct relation to production and trade, and it is a fact not mentioned in this comparison that there has been much improvement in waterway communication in Germany and very little in England.

The coal mined in Great Britain increased from 134,000,000 tons in 1880 to 220,000,000 in 1905, but in Germany the increase was from 80,000,000 to 173,000,000 tons, or nearly double, while a much larger proportion of the output is consumed in domestic industries. In iron and steel production Germany outstripped the United Kingdom during the period of fifteen years, with 4,658,000 tons as its output of iron in 1890 and 10,875,000 in 1905, while the gain of the latter was from 8,031,000 tons to 9,746,000. It was in that period that Great Britain fell from first to third place in iron production and steel manufacturing, and the United States advanced to a long lead. Other statistics are given, such as the increase in savings banks deposits, payment of income tax and issues of new capital, and many more might be added.

Technical education has given Germany material advantage. And, as is said with force by one of the reviewers, "there has probably been no more potent factor than the difference in labor conditions. Labor is cheaper in Germany and more amenable to discipline; but, if wages are as a rule lower and hours longer, particularly in skilled trades, it by no means appears that the well-being of the industrial classes is behind that of Great Britain, and the evidence is that it is more general." Labor unions in England and Wales had by their restrictions have created a permanent grade of the unemployed which is presenting a perplexing problem to the government. By limiting apprenticeships, restricting production per man, and forcing higher wages and shorter hours in favored occupations, they have done much to retard the progress of the country. Germany has been free from this "trammel."

Germany is a giant, and a growing and restless one. The tremendous military establishment she maintains is not popular with the Socialists and others. Some day the seeming need for more territory and more markets might give the Kaiser an excuse for justifying the existence of the greatest army in the world.

THE ALDERMEN

To quote from our news report of Saturday's Council meeting, at which the aldermen decided to expropriate the 30-foot strip on the West Side—

"AM. Baxter said he was still of the opinion the best course would have been to have accepted the offer of the lessees. But public opinion, as expressed through the medium of the press, seemed to be against it. He thought that the costs following expropriation would be greater, but they might as well give the public what they wanted.
"AM. McDougall—it takes the responsibility from us."

and subsequently regain possession of the rest of the property. If so a portion of the sum may properly be charged up against the aldermen. Also it is well to remember that had the aldermen been allowed to pay \$4250 for the strip and to renew the leases, the city in all probability would have had to pay similar sums from time to time, because of this precedent, when it became necessary to take possession of other parts of the property. Immediate expropriation is held to be necessary in order that important work, too long delayed, may be proceeded with at once. For the delay up to date, for the expropriation, and for whatever results may follow the aldermen have made themselves responsible by an almost unanimous vote.

MORE SIGNS AND PORTENTS

Mr. E. W. Thomson, the eminent Ottawa publicist, has been reading the political heavens again, and, as usual, several disturbing portents have come within the sweep of his telescope. There is an old story about an astronomer who was flabbergasted on one occasion by the discovery that a comet of most horrible attributes and astounding proportions was rushing upon the earth, was due in about a second, and was so aimed that he and the point of impact would be to all intents and purposes identical, so long as identity might last. When they pulled the astronomer out of the cellar and restored him to consciousness they had to hold him down until they could make it clear to him that his fearsome comet was merely a diminutive domestic insect which had found refuge within the telescope, and had moved unperceptibly toward his field of vision. Mr. Thomson is in some such situation, except that his panic is feigned.

Mr. Thomson, to come at the facts, has been writing to the Boston Transcript about Mr. Robitaille's victory over Mr. Amyot in Quebec county, but chiefly about Mr. Bourassa's victory over Sir Wilfrid Laurier. This Mr. Thomson affects to believe complete and of far-reaching consequences. Remembering that Mr. Thomson has his eager eye glued to the telescope and that he is prone to see things, let us hear his report, in part: "It is a pity (he writes) the movement of the French is from a calm, tried, cautious statesman, one who regards with sympathy and understanding even the elements that oppose him, to a fiery young champion of his creed and race. This is ominous of future race and creed trouble. . . . A Tory success at the next general elections is not probable, though possible, since the Tory strength in parliament seems now sure to be greatly augmented. Administration by henchmen of the Orange Association would not be favorable to continued agreement between English Canada and a Bourassa-Quebec. Did the two races once quarrel irretrievably, the Dominion would vanish like the unsubstantial fabric of a vision, leaving not a wreck of British territory on the continental mainland."

HEARST OR HUGHES?

The betting answers, "Hughes!" but the favorites do not always win, and if they did there would be no betting. Moreover, in this case it is difficult to interpret the odds quoted, which are from two and a half to three to one on Hughes. This, in sporting language, has been described as "a false price"—odds not justified by the visible facts. Hearst or Hughes? The tendency is to answer: "Hughes, unless the first state of the Union has gone crazy," and many make such answer. It is far from conclusive, however, for the elements behind Hughes are not all good, just as the elements behind Hearst are not all bad. As between the men personally there can be no question but that Hughes is infinitely preferable. It does not follow that the election of Hughes would be infinitely better for the state of New York and the nation than the election of Hearst. Political and social conditions in the United States will be better for developments which will cause the honest men of both parties to insist upon better things. To elect Hughes may mean to stop a needed revolution half way, and to make necessary an even more violent political upheaval later on. A discriminating Canadian writer says of Hearst:

"The time is peculiarly opportune for Mr. Hearst's candidature. The anti-corruption feeling is very strong all over the continent, and for years Hearst has exploited this feeling with deadly persistence and remarkable courage. He appeals to all there is of envy, hatred and prejudice in the poorer and more ignorant elements of the people. More than one of the trusts he has beaten to the knees, and it would be wholly unjust to deny that he has been greatly influential in fashioning recent legislation both at Albany and at Washington. Even President Roosevelt, reluctant though he might be to admit the fact, has been influenced by the campaign of the Hearst papers, and by his own messages and measures has strengthened the Hearst movement."

This is both true and just. Scarcely a public address or state occasion has been prepared by Theodore Roosevelt for two or three years past which has not made proclamation of the evils which Hearst has daily assailed. Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Hughes prescribe one set of remedies, the Dominion would vanish like the unsubstantial fabric of a vision, leaving not a wreck of British territory on the continental mainland."

OCTOBER 31, '06.

OAK HALL The Busiest Clothing Store in Town

THE REWARD OF MERIT

Men know that success in mercantile lines, now-a-days, is the reward of merit. Accidental successes are few. Special favor counts for little. The man that "delivers the goods" wins. The Clothing Store that has grown in a few short years until now it is doing the largest clothing business in the Maritime Provinces, and whose sales are increasing more rapidly than ever before—that store deserves to be known as—

THE BEST CLOTHING STORE

We sell, at a reasonable cost, the best Clothing that is made; and our stocks are graded down to the lowest-priced, sturdy, reliable, well-made Clothing for everyday or business wear.

We meet the requirements of the most fastidious taste and of the lighter purse, guaranteeing satisfaction to every purchaser.

Our stocks are larger than ever before, and they need be. All former Customer Selling-Records are being broken—year by hundreds of dollars.

Men's Suits, - - \$5 to \$25
Men's Overcoats, - 6 to 25

Smart Clothes for Boys

CLOTHES THAT LOOK WELL
CLOTHES THAT WEAR WELL

Clothes That Cost About 1-3 Less Than Others Charge

These are the sort of clothes you'll get here, and you'll get them at a great deal less than you'll have to pay for equally good clothes elsewhere.

Russian Suits, - -	\$4.25 to \$7.00
Norfolk Suits, - -	2.25 to 2.50
Sailor Suits, - -	90c to 2.00
Eton Sailor Suits, - -	4.25 to 7.50
Buster Brown Suits, - -	3.50 to 8.00
Sack Suits, - -	3.00 to 12.00

King Street, Corner
German

GREATER OAK HALL

SCOVIL BROS. LIMITED

ST. JOHN, N. B.

Branch Store, 695 Main St.

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Thus does the magician Thomson rive this Canada asunder in the presence of a hypnotized audience and shy the remnants at the American flag, adding several stabs thereto by a more twist of the wrist. We have come a long road to be snuffed out thus summarily. A little analysis, however, shows us that though Mr. Thomson is seeing stars it does not follow that they exist. "Did the two races once quarrel irretrievably," quoth he. In that phrase his whole argument is seen to be the "unsubstantial fabric of a vision," and no more.

Mr. Bourassa is being widely heralded in the Conservative press as the Hercules who is going to pull down the pillars of the Liberal temple in Quebec. But a general election is needed before the political yard-stick can be applied to Mr. Bourassa with anything approaching accuracy.

Mr. John F. Grant, whose death at St. Stephen at the age of seventy-seven is reported, had been fifty-three years in the employ of a bank, and during thirty years of that time had taken no holiday. At a time when there are many reports about defalcations and wild-cat financial transactions it is well to refer to faithful service such as that Mr. Grant rendered. There is much good in the world. The evil makes the most noise.

The New York Herald has been publishing the result of its inquiries among the voters. As the Herald is most hostile to Hearst and would not be disposed to represent public sentiment as more favorable to him than it really is, its latest set of figures is somewhat significant:

Total vote polled yesterday..... 3,718
For Hughes..... 1,812
For Hearst..... 1,712
Doubtful..... 134
Labor vote for Hearst..... 1,193
Labor vote for Hughes..... 718
Average vote for Hughes..... 1,024
Average vote for Hearst..... 572
Total Herald poll to date..... 4,063
Grand total for Hughes..... 2,009
Grand total for Hearst..... 1,922
Doubtful..... 134

fax library gets \$10,000, for books. An old servant receives a cancelled mortgage and \$8,000; and there are similar benefactions. Here was a man who knew how to make money and how to make the money do good after he had moved along.

Mr. George W. Fowler is to resume his dialogue with Mr. Shepley before the insurance commission on Guy Fawkes' Day. Presumably the managers of the show will keep all the explosive material some distance from Parliament Hill.

The pacific attitude of the House of Lords some days ago was misleading. The birth of the Education Bill adopted by the Commons has a majority of some 200 against it in the upper chamber. And now?

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NOTE AND COMMENT

Ontario has collected a million dollars in succession duties this year, one estate—the Gooderham—contributing more than half of the great total.

The frightful railroad wreck at Atlantic City exceeds in horror any reported during which has been perhaps the worst year in the history of American railroading.

Toronto's building permits for this year show structures worth \$11,000,000 as compared with a total of \$10,337,000 for the twelve months last year. From Oct. 9 to Oct. 20 permits were given for the erection of 163 dwellings.

The wall of the late Jarius Hart, of Halifax, is a document of more than usual interest. Most of an estate of half a million is distributed among good causes. The Methodist Church will receive \$100,000, and Mr. Allison, an equal sum. The Herald.

In a letter to The Globe enclosing a copy of his letter to Mr. Pearson, of the gas company, Mr. Cockburn writes:

"I am glad to learn from the general manager that this year, ending September 30th, 1906, has been the best in the history of that company."

"I may add that a further reduction of five cents per 1,000 cubic feet of gas was made this day, to take immediate effect, thus reducing the net price of gas to seventy-five cents, being as low a price, I believe, as that charged by any gas company in America."—Toronto Globe.

Raney went a shock any such announcement would create in St. John.

No matter how much her naval rivals strive to imitate her, England can always get ahead of them by her ability to build, equip, and send to sea a great battleship fully a year before a vessel started in any other country at the same time.—New York Evening Post.

A very handy ability, too. The new British ships are to be seven knots faster than the American, German or French vessels of the best class afloat. "Naturally," says the Post, "there is consternation among the big-mania maniacs of other countries. Our Navy Department, which has been for a year planning to outdo the Dreadnought, and will not get the money for its monster for months yet, finds itself compelled to readapt its plans in accordance with the designs of the new English battleships, which will be ready for service about the time that the keel of our 20,000-ton vessel is laid."

"The problem which faces Mr. Roosevelt's administration," says the Montreal Witness, referring to Californian discrimination against the Japanese, "looks like a troublesome one indeed. Nor is it his only. The British Empire does not escape this peril of federation because her federal system is wrapped up in the law. British Columbia is just as recalcitrant as California and her acts are calculated not only to rive Great Britain's alliances, but to alienate her great dependencies. From this point of view the difference which has arisen between the United States and Japan is of very great interest to ourselves." British Columbia cannot well refuse admission to the Hindeans, who are British subjects, and it is suggested, also, that they may with reason demand the right to vote.

William E. Hunter, of Naugatuck (Conn.), sent word to his customers the other day that he could not furnish milk because his cows were drunk and disorderly. Hunter's forty cows leaped the pasture fence into an apple orchard, and began feasting on the windfall apples. Soon they were bellowing and staggering around the orchard in a very disgraceful manner.

The Celebrated
English Cocoa.

EPPS'S

An admirable food, with all its natural qualities intact. This excellent Cocoa maintains the system in robust health, and enables it to resist winter's extreme cold.

COCOA

The Most Nutritious and Economical.