

The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1912.

IMPROVED CABLE COMMUNICATION.

The reduction in the cable rates between Great Britain and Canada, recently announced, will be very generally appreciated by the business community throughout the Dominion. Representations made to the Western Union Telegraph Company by the Postmaster General of Great Britain and Mr. Pelletier, the Postmaster General of Canada, during his visit to England, have brought about this desirable result. The reduction is not yet in force as some time must necessarily elapse before the 25,000 telegraph offices operated by the company in Canada and the United States, to which the reductions also apply, can be officially notified. The Great North Western has also about 4,000 offices and these have to be notified. To secure uniformity the change in rates will go into effect simultaneously in both countries.

The new rates call for marked reductions in the transmission of what telegraph operators call "deferred business," and are rendered possible by the past experience of the company that it is profitable to use the cables at reduced rates at hours when otherwise they would be idle. The regular message rate of 25 cents a word is maintained. It applies to the business parts of the day, and messages at this rate still have priority in transmission over all others. An important reduction, however, from 12 cents to 9 cents is made in the rate on deferred messages and quicker delivery is assured. The new rate of 9 cents a word is established for messages to be sent at such times of the day or night as the company finds convenient. They must be written in English and no code words are to be allowed except in the addresses. In messages to or from Canada they can be written in French if the sender prefers.

Another important change applies to night letters, which can be sent at 75 cents for twelve words with 5 cents for each additional word. This is a welcome innovation and has no counterpart in the present cable schedules of the company. Code words are barred in these messages also except in the address. They may be filed at any time up to midnight and are to be delivered on the morning of the day following that on which they are handled or within twenty-four hours of the time of filing.

The minimum rate for "week-end letters" is reduced from \$1.50 for thirty words to \$1.15 for twenty-four words. The charge for additional words under the old tariff was 25 cents for each group of five words. Under the new schedule the rate is 5 cents for each extra word. These messages must be filed before midnight on Saturday and will be delivered on Monday morning. This is a gain of twenty-four hours in delivery, as under the old arrangement delivery was deferred until Tuesday. The old "cable letters," which went at the rate of \$1.50 for 20 words are superseded by the new classifications.

Press rates are also subject to some further and much needed reductions. The rate was recently reduced from 20 cents to 7 cents with a restriction deferring delivery for nine hours. This deferment is now abolished. At certain hours which coincide nearly with the time of publication for morning and afternoon papers the rate is further reduced to 5 cents a word.

All the new rates will apply to messages between Great Britain and Canada and between Great Britain and the United States. They call for free delivery in all parts of the Old Country and in such parts of the United States and Canada as are already in the so-called 25 cent zone—that is, in the region reached now by regular cable messages at 25 cents a word. Messages to places outside that zone will be subject to additional tolls. The zone referred to, as far as Canada is concerned, includes the Maritime Provinces and the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario. Further West there will be the usual small additional charge for transmission, but all the Provinces in the Dominion will benefit by the reductions in the rates.

These changes, which embody quicker delivery and reduced rates, should certainly tend to make the cable message more popular. Mr. Pelletier is entitled to his full share of the credit in securing these concessions for the Dominion during his visit to the Old Country. Sir John Henniker Heaton, who is recognized the world over as an authority on postage and telegraph matters, pays the Postmaster General a warm tribute for the energy and perseverance he has shown not only in securing the concessions referred to but in his advocacy of State-owned cables. He intimates that Mr. Pelletier has the active support of the Australian and New Zealand Governments and is hopeful that this measure, which would revolutionize cable rates, will eventually be adopted. Sir J. Henniker Heaton has a reputation for being a thorn in the side of British Postmasters General for many years and has instituted many notable reforms. He secured Imperial Penny Postage in 1898, Anglo-American Penny Postage nine years later, introduced telegraph money orders and a parcel post between France and Great Britain. He is now bending his energies to establish telegrams at two cents a word, with a minimum of twelve words for 25 cents, throughout the world. He believes with the active support of the British Empire League his dream will be realized in less than ten years.

AN EXPERT OPINION.

In the opinion of Mr. Robert S. Lovett, head of the Harriman railway system, given in a recent interview, the Panama Canal will not be of much material benefit to any section of the United States except the Pacific Coast. He does not believe it will revolutionize freight rates. In fact he does not expect the rates to be disturbed to any great extent. He is strongly opposed to the provision which prevents the railroads from operating steamship lines through the canal. Mr. Lovett is a recognized authority on transportation and his conclusions are instructive.

His opinion that only the Pacific Coast States will benefit is based on the fact that the canal will mean a heavy immigration movement into that part of the country; it will result in the bringing of a great volume of labor which is needed; it will bring new farmers and new settlers, who will help to develop and build up the country.

Freight rates will not be affected to any extent because, while the railways may lose some of the long haul business, he believes that the following fundamental principle will remain true after the canal is open: "Whatever is of advantage and benefit to the country at large will be of benefit to the railroads. As the communities are built up by new population flowing in through the canal the railroads will have more local business to handle, for each

new settler will be a producer and will furnish business for the railroad."

The exclusion of railroad owned vessels from the canal, he believes, will mean a serious set back to American shipping in the Pacific. "It will take a long time for the passenger business to develop to any big proportions," he says, "for it will cost somebody not less than \$20,000,000 to build the class of steamships that we were preparing to operate over the route. The Pacific Mail has a fine line of steamships already, and was prepared to build additional ones, giving a fleet that would cost, as I said, not less than \$20,000,000 to duplicate, and I don't believe anybody is going to rush in and spend that sum of money in that way, at least not right away." This opinion by Mr. Lovett may fairly be taken as the view of the transportation interests. There is a growing sentiment, as expressed in the United States press, that after the Presidential election the act will have to be revised in several important particulars.

THE ELECTION IN MAINE.

The Republicans have won the election in the State of Maine, but owing to the absence of Progressive candidates the result is no indication that President Taft will carry the State in November. The outcome is naturally a cause of rejoicing to the party which was defeated two years ago. To the impartial observer, watching the signs of the times, the election is of little interest. The Republicans have won back the Governorship, which now falls to Mr. William T. Haines, and have secured three of the four Congressmen and a sufficient majority on a joint ballot in the Legislature to secure the election of a Republican Senator. Congressman Edwin C. Burleigh is the party's candidate. The Republicans in this State are pledged to Prohibition. As an enthusiastic organ of the party remarked in announcing the victory yesterday, "Demon Rum is out of Maine politics for two years to come at least."

The Bull Moose section of the Republicans was in control of the machinery of the party, having secured the ascendancy in the Presidential primaries earlier in the year when a solid Roosevelt delegation was sent to Chicago. The absence of any Progressive candidate on the State and Congressional tickets met with the approval of Mr. Roosevelt. It is significant that many of the leading State speakers in the campaign have announced that they are no longer in the Republican ranks, but will take the stump immediately for Roosevelt for President and in opposition to Taft. Under these circumstances it is an open question which of the three Presidential candidates, Wilson, Taft and Roosevelt, will carry the State in November.

A RELIGIOUS CONFERENCE IN JAPAN.

To the credit of Japan it must be recorded that in recent years she has opened her gates wide to ministers of the Christian religion. The latest evidence on this point is forthcoming in a recent conference of representatives of the Christian churches and of Buddhism and Shinto held at Tokyo upon the invitation of the Minister of Home Affairs. The object of the conference, which was called with the approval of the Japanese Cabinet, was to discuss ways and means which the different religions proposed to adopt for the uplift of the people.

In addition to Mr. Hara, the Minister of Home Affairs, who presided, there were present Mr. Tokunomi, the vice-minister, the heads of the various bureaus of the Home Department, and the Ministers of Justice, Communications and the Navy, as well as other prominent officials. The Prime Minister, who was unable to be present, sent his sincere regrets. All the thirteen Shinto sects were represented, as well as twenty or more Buddhist sects. Only one sect of Buddhism declined, on the ground that it objected to having Christianity put upon the same basis in the view of the Government as Shinto and Buddhism. The seven Christians, represented the Baptists, the Congregationalists, Episcopalians, the Greek Church, the Methodists, the Presbyterians and the Reformed churches, and the Roman Catholics.

The Minister of Home Affairs, in welcoming the conference, expressed appreciation of what had been done in the past by the representatives of the different religions to guide the minds of the people and better moral conditions. He hoped for a continuance of such effort in the future and had asked for the conference in order that there might be a better understanding between the Government and religious forces as to the end to be aimed at.

FOR POTATO GROWERS.

There has been issued, by direction of the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa, a conspicuous poster calling the attention of potato growers to the importance of examining their crop to ascertain whether or not it is infected with "potato canker." The danger shown in natural colors a potato plant which is affected by the disease. It shows the appearance of individual tubers in which the canker has started to work. Growers who discover suspicious symptoms of the disease in their crop are requested to send affected specimens to the Dominion botanist, Experimental Farm, Ottawa. The poster is issued as Farmers' Circular No. 3, of the division of botany, and is being distributed by the publications department of the Department of Agriculture.

Current Comment

A Western Opinion.

(Edmonton Journal.) Eastern papers show that Sir Wilfrid Laurier's abandonment of his Western trip came with almost dramatic suddenness. In the morning the Globe had a long article in which it is said that the keynote of the tour would be the ex-Premier's recent Montreal speech. In the afternoon came the announcement that there would not be any tour at all. The reason given was that the farmers were too busy. But it would not have been difficult to find out some months ago that this would be the case at this time of year. The explanation undoubtedly is after the recent Liberal conference in Ottawa, it became quite apparent that Sir Wilfrid's speeches in the West could not be in line with those which the Scott supporters delivered during the Saskatchewan campaign. The men in control of the party's policy had decreed otherwise.

The Dominant Dollar.

(The Moose Jaw Times.) If we could blot out the mental impression that money necessarily brings happiness, how much better a place this great wealthy country might be to live in; how much happier many lives would be! But almost everything, health, peace of mind, beautiful surroundings, all that makes life enjoyable, is but second to the eternal struggle for the almighty dollar.

Be Patient!

(New York Herald.) Men in prison for Rosenthal murder complain of lack of fruit on prison menu. Ought to be some electric current along shortly.

Still a Problem.

(Cleveland Press.) Self-government must still be somewhat of a problem when a city like Detroit nominates eight of her eighteen aldermen who are under indictment for bribery,

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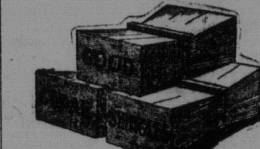
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LEAGUE PLAYERS AVERAGES

(Frederickton Gleaser.)

Bob Ganley, captain of the champion Frederickton team, is the batting leader of the New Brunswick and Maine League for 1912 just closed.

While Joe Lynch and Frank Harrington, two of the Pets pitchers, both have larger averages than Ganley's figures, nevertheless the Pets' captain is the real leader, having the highest standing of any of the regular players who were in the game every day.

Ganley's figures for the season are 353, while he made 78 hits, which is the largest number made by any individual player, and a record equalled only by Larry Conley, another of the Pets, but who played in seven more games than the league leader. The final figures show seventeen players in the select 300 class, and of that number no less than seven are members of the Frederickton club, while another was with the Pets part of the time.

To High Pinkerton, the St. John infielder, goes the honor of having played the largest number of games during the season. He started with the Narathons from the first of the season and was the only member of that club to weather the entire season. The Frederickton club only played 69 games, and Larry and Bob Conley and "Hannah" Hoyt are the only ones among the Pets who participated in every game.

The heaviest hitting team of the league is selected from the figures herewith, as follows: the players being chosen from those participating in ten games or more and being chosen for the position in which they played the majority of their games.

The team of sluggers follows: Pitcher—Harrington, 374. Catcher—Watt, 309. 1st Base—Lott, 305. 2nd Base—Ramsey, 316. 3rd Base—E. Conley, 353. Shortstop—Neptune, 329. Left Field—L. Conley, 322. Centre Field—Black, 343. Right Field—Ganley, 355.

The following are the averages made up to the close of the season and exclusive only of the game which Woodstock played at Houlton on July 5th, the box score of which is not available. It is believed that this box score will soon be secured and then the averages will be published complete for the season. The figures:

Lynch, (F.)	353	78	385
Harrington, (F.)	374	91	374
Ganley, (F.)	353	78	355
Delano, (F.)	34	112	348
Black, (W.)	343	72	343
Duggan, (F.)	327	76	335
Wainwright, (F.)	322	77	322
Hughes, (H.)	312	70	320
L. Conley, (F.)	322	78	322
Ramsey, (St. J.)	316	78	316
Jordan, (St. J.)	319	6	316
Callahan, (F. W.)	21	64	313
O'Donnell, (W. St. J.)	45	174	310
Watt, (H.)	309	175	310
Hale, (F.)	9	26	308
Perley, (W.)	55	216	306
Lott, (H.)	55	197	305
Fraser, (St. J.)	53	210	305
B. Conley, (F.)	69	259	293
Johnson, (H.)	58	237	291
Fitzgerald, (F. F.)	40	149	281
Neptune, (H.)	54	204	279
Martini, (H.)	43	116	275
Lamourey, (H.)	40	149	275
Dutton, (St. J.)	62	208	274
O'Brien, (St. J.)	38	150	267
Nelson, (St. J. W.)	16	57	262
McElwee, (H.)	57	191	257
Pinkerton, (St. J.)	72	273	256
Stone, (W.)	23	80	250
Scanlon, (H.)	2	8	250
Hoyt, (F.)	69	254	244
Hammond, (H.)	37	132	242
Kearney, (F.)	42	116	241
Wildes, (F.)	62	204	235
Willey, (H.)	12	30	233
Brown, (F.)	26	69	232
Winkler, (St. J.)	53	13	225
McGovern, (St. J. W.)	50	192	224
Sharkey, (F.)	9	19	211
Duff, (W.)	55	204	208
Murray, (F.)	33	84	190
Riley, (St. J.)	65	217	184
McElwee, (H.)	5	17	183
Doherty, (W.)	16	53	170
Finamore, (H.)	44	137	168
Hanley, (W.)	12	38	158
S. White, (St. J.)	12	39	133
A. White, (St. J.)	13	33	131
O'Connor, (St. J.)	3	10	100
Trouhart, (H.)	26	61	892

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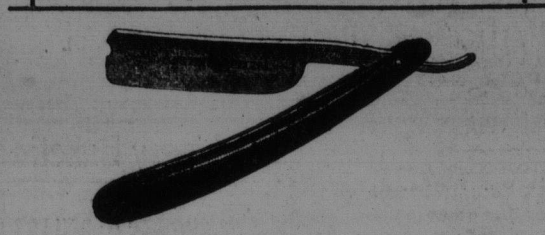
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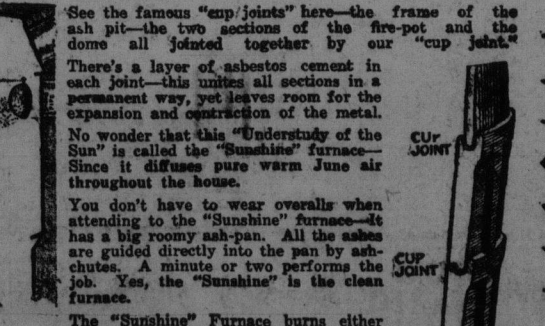
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