

THE HERALD

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So far as known, the Provincial Government has not yet appointed an Attorney-General. If this matter is not attended to without much further delay the opposition press will find it necessary to advertise for an Attorney-General.

PROFESSOR J. W. Robertson, Canada's Dairy Commissioner, was in this city yesterday, and addressed a meeting regarding the establishment of manual training in the schools. He announced that a wealthy man, a friend of his, had guaranteed the funds necessary to establish manual training in several sections of Canada. One of the places decided upon by the Professor for trying the experiment is Charlottetown. A committee was formed to take the necessary steps for establishing this branch of education. The Professor also arranged for a chicken-fattening station here and one at Summerside.

On Thursday last, the Grits of East Queen's held a convention in the Liberal Club Room in the Market House, Charlottetown. Like the meeting of the Grits of King's County held at Georgetown on the previous week, the gathering seems to have been small in members and generally speaking a very flat affair. The room in which the meeting was held is by no means large; and on this occasion it was far from being uncomfortably crowded, and were it not that there were Grits present from other parts of the Province than East Queen's, it would have been a poor affair indeed. The presence of Sir Louis Davies had been heralded as a great drawing card; but the people did not enthuse worth a cent, and Sir Louis must have felt disappointed when he found himself in the presence of such a small and unenthusiastic assemblage. After the appointment of officers for the association, speeches were made by several of the brethren. Sir Louis of course, made the principal address, and as usual was no way scrupulous regarding the accuracy of his remarks. According to him there never was in existence such a Government as the Laurier administration. We are certainly inclined to agree with him in this; but not in the sense he would wish to convey. There never was a Government with such a record of false promises and broken election pledges; there never was a Government with such an unenviable notoriety for boodling; there never was a Government so deeply steeped in double dyed hypocrisy. Taking his cue from Sir Richard Cartwright, who described the Laurier Government, as "shreds and patches," and "ragged remnants," Sir Louis was pleased to refer to the Liberal Conservatives as a "half-bred, hotted-out faction." What nice and gentlemanly language for a Sir Knight. But those best acquainted with the Laurier administration know that he can scarcely be held accountable for his reckless expressions, when wrought to a high pitch of excitement. Sir Louis took occasion to refer to the Manitoba School question, and to state that the Laurier Government had settled it to the satisfaction of all. Here is an emphatic statement, which we hope our readers will take note of. Sir Louis says the Manitoba School question is settled to the satisfaction of all. That being so, we do not extend the question any further; but we have heard of any more; certainly the Conservatives can scarcely be expected to refer to the matter again. The Grits took the question out of the hands of the Conservatives, and now a leading Grit says they have settled it. All right; if those most interested are perfectly satisfied, the opponents of the Government are not likely to bother their heads about it any more. The expansion of trade throughout the Dominion came for considerable attention on the part of Sir Louis; but the expansion of the public debt, and the expansion of the public expenditure are matters too trivial to be noticed by the gallant Sir Knight. But the electorate understand these matters, and are likely to remind Sir Louis and his friends of them in a most emphatic manner, when the proper time comes. As in his interview with the Patriot to which we referred last week, Sir Louis retailed a lot of both about the Yukon scandals. He need not expect that any amount of such bombast will obscure from the discerning public the festering scandals perpetrated in the Yukon administration by the friends of Sir Louis and his colleagues. As in his interview, Sir Louis made no reference to his conduct in preventing a thorough investigation of the West Haron election scandals. But he need not have the slightest misgiving, but the people understand the meaning of this omission and will hold him to a strict account for the part he took in preventing a complete exposure of the outrageous scandals perpetrated in this connection by his political friends.

THE GENERAL INTENTION recommended to the prayers of the league of the Sacred Heart for the month of September, by his Holiness the Pope, in protection from evil societies. On our first page will be found an admirable article bearing on this subject,

which deserves careful perusal. Societies such as we are here warned against exist everywhere, and by their insidiousness the unwary are, not infrequently, entrapped into joining them. This is essentially the age of societies, and associations such as those under review so abound, and their apparent advantages are presented in such a fascinating manner that many, without giving the matter sufficient thought, are induced to become members of them. Some of these societies are condemned by the Church, and a Catholic can have no excuse for joining such. Possibly very few Catholics do so. But there are several other societies that are not formally condemned, yet have not received, and are not likely to receive, the Church's approval. It is among these latter that the danger lies for the Catholics who may join them under one pretence or another, not understanding exactly what they are doing, may advance the plea that they are not condemned. This is untenable ground; for it is not enough that a society is not formally approved by the Church, should join it. The safest course to pursue in all such cases is to consult one's pastor. But there is no need of being in any doubt, or running any risk in this matter, when there exists a society that possesses temporal and monetary advantages equal, if not superior, to any other and at the same time is capable of affording greater social advantages, while it has the positive approval, blessing and encouragement of the Pope, the sanction and active co-operation of the Bishops and priests everywhere. This society is the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, commonly styled the C. M. B. A. Here is an association that can be had in any other insurance company, while in its basic and fundamental principles it embraces all the elements of a perfect society. Whether from a religious, social or pecuniary point of view, the C. M. B. A. offers advantages that cannot be found in any other mutual benefit society in existence. While it admits to its ranks all without distinction, who possess the requisite religious, moral and physical qualifications, it is especially the insurance association of those of moderate means, who may be unable to secure insurance in straight line companies. It is for these it was specially instituted. Branches of the C. M. B. A. are to be found in every section of this wide Dominion, and the association is constantly increasing. Our own Province already possesses eleven branches of this admirable association, and it is earnestly to be hoped that several additional Branches will soon come into existence. It appears to us that wherever a sufficient number of eligible subjects are found, a proper presentation of the advantages attached to the C. M. B. A. should be sufficient to induce them to form a Branch. In view of the great interest the Holy Father is taking in the question of societies for the faithful, in making it the object of the prayers of the whole Christian world, the subject we have been reviewing deserves the most serious consideration of all our readers.

OTTAWA LETTER. PROVIDENCE AND THE SENATE.—SIR RICHARD IS ONLY AN ONLOOKER, WHILE TARTE AND OTHERS PLAY THE GAME.—THE ATLANTIC STEAMSHIP BUNGLER.—MR. MILLS AS A MILLSTONE. (Special Correspondence to the Herald.) OTTAWA, September 2.—When Sir Richard Cartwright was asked at Toronto: "What about the Senate?" he replied: "You may leave the Senate to the care of Providence, which, in its own good time will doubtless take that millstone from off the necks of the people." This was a rather cold blooded way of referring to the fact that death is making many vacancies in the Senate. But it is philosophical and shows that Sir Richard in this matter, as in others, is not in hearty accord with the project of "Senate reform" proposed by his leader on the recommendation of Mr. Tarte. Two years ago Mr. Tarte's journal, La Patrie, which was then angry because the first and most improvident Drummond railway contract was rejected, proposed a new constitutional device. The plan was that whenever the Senate did not agree with the Commons the two chambers should meet as one body and vote together. The adverse majority of the Senate might thus be overcome by the government majority in the Commons. Sir Wilfred Laurier at once fell in with this anti-British scheme, and at the last session gave notice that the government would ask the House to pass an address to the imperial authorities, praying for this change in the constitution. The resolution was postponed from day to day and finally withdrawn altogether, with the assurance of the premier that it would be brought in next year and forced to the issue. SIR RICHARD'S BROAD HINT. There is a strong impression that some of the English speaking ministers who look to England rather than to France for their example, were not enthusiastic over Mr. Tarte's scheme of an amphotibic assembly. They were, perhaps, not so sorry as was

when the Senate held over the Drummond and Grand Trunk contract, and enabled the government to make a bargain at least a million dollars better. Nor is there much weeping and wailing over the defeat of the Yukon scheme, for which no human being has now a single good word to say.

Sir Richard's intimation that the Senate may safely be left to Providence is a broad hint that Mr. Tarte's plan of assisting Providence has not now, if it ever had, the sympathy of the minister of trade and commerce. When Sir Richard spoke there were four vacancies in the Senate, caused by the death of Senators Sutherland and Boulton, of Manitoba; Sanford, of Ontario, and Bellerose, of Quebec. Since then Senator Temple, of New Brunswick, and Senator Price, of Quebec, have died, leaving six seats, which were held by Conservatives when parliament met, ready to be filled by the appointment of government supporters. After these vacancies are filled the government will be able to count twenty-seven supporters out of forty-one, required for a majority. When it is considered that more than half of these will have become senators since the change of government, it will be seen that the work which Sir Richard assigns to Providence may be accomplished in a few years more. It is true that, as the number of liberal senators increases a larger proportion of vacancies will be on that side than occurs now. Probably five or six years of continued power would enable Sir Wilfred and Mr. Tarte to control the upper house. But we shall have one, and perhaps two general elections before that time, and the new senators may not be Laurier men.

The minister of justice and the secretary of state would naturally object to be called "millstones on the neck of the people" if they thought that their colleague intended his remarks to apply to gnat senators. It has been noticed that the reformer in parliament who denounces the Senate with the greatest energy is usually the most eager for a seat in the red chamber. Hon David Mills, for instance, once described the Senate as a resort of defeated candidates and bloated millionaires. Mr. Mills justified his reflection by seeking a seat in the Senate when he was defeated in Bothwell, and has the satisfaction of sitting in the same row with that more or less bloated millionaire, Mr. George A. Cox, appointed by this government. Other defeated candidates and other millionaires are ready to take the six seats now vacant.

A CRIPPLED ONLOOKER. Speaking of Sir Richard Cartwright, the part of his Toronto address which has attracted most attention among politicians who visit the capital is the opening remark: "Mr. President, there is an old saying that onlookers, at any rate in the game, see more than those who play. Now, for a period of some three years back I have myself been, rather a badly crippled man, and in consequence have been to a certain extent occupying the role of onlooker." This is taken to mean that Sir Richard wants it to be understood that the game which has been played at Ottawa is not his game. As a member of the government he admits a constitutional responsibility for the magnificent spendings of his colleagues and for whatever there may be of corruption in the handling of contracts, which go to the highest bidder, or are given out without tender. But while accepting officially his share of the blame for broken pledges and reckless expenditure, the minister of trade and commerce proceeds to all concerned that personally he has had no part in the game. He has been no more than an onlooker, and a crippled one at that, while Mr. Tarte, Mr. Blair, Mr. Sifton and Mr. Fielding played the game. In his whole speech he professes to be merely giving the result of his observations as an outsider, and carefully sets forth that he has not been one of the performers.

Shortly before the change of government Sir Richard, in the course of a campaign speech in Ontario, said that when the Tories were beaten, he himself would have the financial direction of the new government. Sir Richard has the good now, but when this government was formed he was as capable of taking charge of the finance department as ever he had been. The new liberals wanted a freer hand than he was likely to give them. Mr. Tarte had no use for the kind of men whom Mr. Mackenzie liked to have about him. So it came about that the sixty million game is played by others, while Sir Richard is permitted to look on.

THE STEAMSHIP TROUBLE. The one important matter which Sir Richard, as minister of trade and commerce has nominally had in charge is that of the Atlantic steamships. But here, also, his authority seems to have been only nominal. The late government had closed a contract for a first-class Canadian weekly Atlantic mail service, having fast ships, with gold storage accommodation and up-to-date equipment in every particular. Among the first things that Mr. Laurier's government did was to cancel this arrangement. Then the matter was taken out of the hands of Sir Richard and given to Mr. Debel, minister without office. He appeared in parliament in 1897, jubilant over a contract made by himself for ships of a novel type. The gonnity was assured that the contractors were financially strong, with much experience. The government plighted its word that the new bargain was much better than the old one, and was exceedingly profitable over the great business arrangement.

A WEAK POINT. In process of time it was discovered that the programme had one weak feature. It did not produce the ships

St. Dunstan's College, Classical and Commercial (Affiliated to Laval University.) The Classes in St. Dunstan's College will be resumed on TUESDAY, the 12th SEPTEMBER next. For further particulars apply to A. P. McLELLAN, Rector. St. Dunstan's College, Charlottetown. August 30, 1899-21

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THE WINTER SERVICE. Meanwhile the former mail subsidies were continued, and the arrangements made by the late government to divert the Canadian winter export business from New England ports to St. John and Halifax were kept in operation. A large quantity of grain and other products has been shipped in winter from St. John by boats of the Allan, Dominion, Donaldson, Beaver, Furness and other lines, which formerly did business at Portland and Boston. This large and growing trade is now in peril as a result of Mr. Blair's contract with the Grand Trunk, in connection with the purchase of the Drummond line by the government. The minister has practically agreed to hand over to the Grand Trunk all the intercolonial west bound freight. The Canadian Pacific Company, which formerly received from the Intercolonial at St. John a part of the business, claims that without return business it is not profitable to carry export freight to its terminus at St. John. At the time of writing the company has declined to promise freight to the steamships which were to have gone on the St. John route, and the management of the ships decline to put them on the route unless assurances are given that they can get cargoes. The public is less interested in the fortunes of two great railway corporations than in the future of this winter port trade. It will be a serious calamity if, as a result of the Drummond deal the whole winter trade of Canada is again transferred to foreign ports.

NOTES. Mr. Tarte, who has been undergoing surgical treatment in a French hospital has been restored to health, and is expected back this month. There is still much speculation as to whether the government will appeal to the country before next session. At least two ministers are quoted as having given solemn assurances that there will be no election—and yet there are doubters. The general negotiations with the United States appear to have been practically abandoned. Nothing is said of another meeting of the commission. It will be remembered that when the commissioners separated they were to meet at Quebec in August. August has come and gone and no one knows whether the commission will ever meet any more.

The Transvaal Trouble. A Johannesburg correspondent of the London Standard of yesterday says that matters are now hopeless. The Boers will declare war at 48 hours notice, and try to raid Natal before the British troops arrive.

A London despatch of the 2nd says: It is reported at Aldershot that the first Royal Dragoons are under orders to be in readiness in the event of hostilities in the Transvaal. This regiment, which figured at Waterloo, Balaklava and Sebastopol has not left England since the Crimean war.

A Johannesburg despatch of the 2nd says: This town is preparing for eventualities of war. The inmates of the Childrens Home are going to Natal. The town council is providing three months supply of food for the men and animals connected with the scavenger's department. All out-going trains are crowded, and most of the prominent men have already left Johannesburg.

The Pretoria correspondent of the London Morning Post of Sept. 2nd says: "President Kruger told a prominent Boer yesterday (Wednesday) that war was practically certain. Every Boer is now armed with a Mauser and has a hundred rounds of ammunition, strictly for future use, with forty pounds for practice." "I am convinced that the reports of the Boers not being prepared for any pretence and that they will strike a blow when it is least expected."

An English military paper of August 17th, states that orders have been issued at Simons, India, from the war office to hold the following regiments in readiness for embarkation for the Transvaal: Cavalry: the 5th Dragon Guards, 11th Hussars and 19th Hussars. Infantry: Devonshire, (11th); Gloucestershire (20th); 60th Rifles, and Connaught Rangers (94th); 2nd Goronyah regiment the 92nd and 94th, served in the Transvaal war of 1881, the 92nd regiment lost a large number of men at Majuba Hill, and the 94th had about 200 men shot down at Beersburg Spring, while on the march to Pretoria while the Boer general displayed a flag of truce. It is safe to say, if the two regiments get to close quarters with the Boers there will be no prisoners of war after the affair is over.

The correspondent of the London Morning Post of Monday says: "I hear that Pretoria means to fight, and that the Boers will probably rush the border as their only course promising success. The Post also publishes the following despatch from the correspondent now in Newcastle, Natal:—"I left Johannesburg on ascertaining that it was the intention of the government to arrest everyone who had taken a leading part in advocating the claims of the Uitlanders. There were a hundred war-rigged boats on the Orange River. Boer policemen will board the trains. Trucks loaded with commissary stores and ammunition are ready to start at every station. The Boers declare that the intention is only to reach the Natal border. The chief of the Pretoria police considers war unavoidable and they have prepared to strike before the British are ready."

HENRY GEORGE ANNIVERSARY. The 50th anniversary of the birth of Henry George was celebrated on Sunday, at the Grand Central Palace, N. Y., under the auspices of the Manhattan Single Tax Club. About 1,000 persons were present, including the representatives of a number of labor organizations.

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