

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1907

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THE MARITIME PROVINCES

Parliamentary discussion of the diminished representation of the Maritime Provinces, resulting as it has in no definite suggestion that the other provinces are ready to vary on our account the principle of representation by population.

Mr. MacCarthy in the near future will be asked Mayor Sears to present his complaints and best wishes to the people of St. John. He had thoroughly enjoyed his visit, he remarked, and had formed many acquaintances that he valued.

McBRIDE WINS After a troubled session of electioneering the McBride ministry has been retained by the people of British Columbia, which means, among other things, that there is more trouble ahead.

TAKING PUBLIC FRANCHISE COMPANIES

St. John aldermen who are struggling with assessment problems, and citizens who watch the growth of their tax bills with some uneasiness, will be interested in the blunt proposal of the Toronto city council to compel the public franchise companies to pay a much greater proportion of the civic tax burden than they are now contributing.

Table with 2 columns: Assessment, Amount. Rows include Gas, Electric light, Telephone, Street railway, Telegraph companies.

times are good the burden is not particularly heavy. No general objection has been raised. In one case growing business and increased value of privileges enjoyed has not brought a corresponding increased liability to taxation.

MR. MACCARTHY'S VISIT

Mr. Hamilton MacCarthy, who has spent two weeks in this city in forwarding the Champlain monument movement, left for his home in Ottawa last evening, and if his work here is not complete it must at least be felt that his presence and his earnest activities have lent a great impetus to the project and awakened public spirit with respect to it.

MORE POPULATION

In presenting the annual budget this year Hon. Mr. Tassier, Quebec's financial minister, dwelt at some length upon the desirability of securing more settlers for the province and the government's intention with respect to this important matter.

PREPARATIONS

While no one supposes the United States and Japan will go to war this year or next, the retention of the Philippines is held by military men to imply the necessity for the presence of a strong American fleet in the Pacific.

NOTE AND COMMENT

The sudden death of Rev. Father McAuley will be shocking news to many New Brunswickers. No less than eight Canadian railroads to reach Hudson's Bay are now projected and applications for so many charters have been made at Ottawa. The list includes the Canadian Pacific, the Grand Trunk Pacific, the Transatlantic & Northern Ontario, the Canada Central, the Quebec & Lake St. John, and the Great Northern.

Several of the aldermen who supported it perhaps entertained similar views, but, as Mr. Baker says, is correct; only, unless adequately manned, it would, by failing into an enemy's hand, enable him to protract resistance should our fleet not be concentrated in our own waters.

A TIME FOR BARGAINING

A few American journals show something like a fair appreciation of the trend of events and opinion in Canada. The New York Evening Post, in the course of an article dealing with Canadian progress and the questions outstanding over the fisheries, the tariff, the control of international rivers and the like, warns the United States that if it is ever to come to a fair agreement with the Dominion it must avoid both delay and an attempt to get something for nothing.

THE OPEN SHOP

The Evangelical Alliance gave surprising signs of life Monday by indulging in some consideration of "the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act," otherwise the Lemieux conciliation measure. Generally speaking the opinion of the meeting was favorable to the principle of the bill and to most of its provisions.

ASSESSMENT REFORM BLOCKED

The Common Council killed the assessment bill Monday, and blocked the movement for assessment reform. It is likely enough that the result of the vote will be to saddle the taxpayers with the present wretched system for years to come.

CLEMENCEAU YIELDS TO BRIAND ON FRENCH CHURCH TANGLE

Paris, Feb. 2.—The view of Minister of Education Briand that the government must continue along liberal lines in the execution of the separation laws, seems to have prevailed over the stiff-necked view held by Premier Clemenceau, and it has been practically decided to instruct the prefects that the contracts for the leasing of churches offered by the parish priests are acceptable, with modifications, provided they do not vitiate the rights of the state which existed under the Concordat and which exist under the present laws, to "disaffect" the churches.

OLD ORCHARDS MADE NEW

George T. Powell of New York lectures before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society on the Renovation of Old Orchards—Large Attendance of Interested Listeners. (Boston Transcript.) George T. Powell, the well known fruit grower of New York, was the speaker at the Saturday lecture before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society this morning, and the attendance was the largest at any lecture this season.

the Canadian Pacific, the Grand Trunk Pacific, the Transatlantic & Northern Ontario, the Canada Central, the Quebec & Lake St. John, and the Great Northern. St. John could ill afford to lose Mr. J. Morris Robinson. In many ways he was a citizen of unusual value. For his beloved relatives there will be widespread and earnest sympathy.

OLD ORCHARDS MADE NEW

George T. Powell, the well known fruit grower of New York, was the speaker at the Saturday lecture before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society this morning, and the attendance was the largest at any lecture this season. His subject was "The Renovation of Old Orchards," and while the subject was deeply interesting to the fruit growers, the hundred or more ladies who were present listened with close attention as though they were all raisers of apples. Mr. Powell's talk, which was entirely extemporaneous, was made most interesting by the display of a large number of colored plates illustrating his subject.

OLD ORCHARDS MADE NEW

Powell's prescription for the renovation of old orchards is the raising of the clover. He stated that the long roots of the clover lift the soil and so give the necessary water to the trees. The nodules on the roots of the clover bring the nitrogen of the air to the soil in the cheapest possible form. He showed a number of orchards where the trees were planted fifty years ago being brought to such a state in this manner that now the fruit from these trees brings ten dollars a barrel. In many cases difficulty is encountered at the outset in getting clover to grow in an orchard. Some of the New England soil has lost the organisms which fix nitrogen, but these organisms can be supplied artificially. The government is now experimenting with the artificial clover, but he gave up his hope of raising clover in the first year. His experience would have resulted in a failure, but now he can grow clover anywhere. He advised first the sowing broadcast of a mixture of clover, which was introduced into this country originally from England, but which can now be procured from the Southern States. He mixes nine parts of the single clover and nine pounds of red clover to the acre of ground. Few plants may grow the first year, but these will at once begin work to supply the missing organisms, and the second year there will be the better crop because of these few plants. The third year there should be a fairly good crop, and the fourth year the orchard should be a gentleman who had set out twenty thousand trees in Pittsfield (N. H.), on a stony soil, and who kept it until the whole orchard was covered with clover. If the plant will grow there, it ought to be possible to introduce it anywhere in New England.

OLD ORCHARDS MADE NEW

The second point in renovation is proper pruning. There should not be too much in this in an old orchard, as the check will be too severe. The trees may extend over three years. The first year all the dead wood should be taken out. The second year the crossing branches may be removed, cutting a little more in the top and sides, and removing one branch where three or four come out in juxtaposition. Care should be taken to paint over the scars. The third year the tree may be pruned much like a new one and the will start a vigorous growth of new wood on which fine fruit will be produced. After a few years the tree will be practically new.

OLD ORCHARDS MADE NEW

The great difficulty in raising fine fruit from such a renovated orchard is the insect pests. He believed that most of the old orchards of New England had been brought to that state by insects. Mr. Powell then described the various insect pests and gave methods of dealing with them. He advised spraying trees with Bordeaux mixture or a mixture of arsenate of lead and water. To destroy grasshopper and brown-tail moths and caterpillars he uses a mixture made of three pounds of copper sulphate in twenty-five gallons of water, combined with another mixture of four pounds of slacked lime in twenty-five gallons of water. For destroying the codling moth, which is the principal cause of imperfect apples, he uses a mixture of two pounds of lead in fifty gallons of water, and spraying the trees when the mixture has fallen and ten days or two weeks later. He thought that under this system ninety per cent of the fruit would be perfect.

OLD ORCHARDS MADE NEW

The most formidable enemy of apple trees is the San Jose scale, which he described as a pest rapidly and insidiously spreading three billion scales in a single season. He believed that government should make a large appropriation for the suppression of this insect pest, a statement which was received with applause. He thought that practically all of the old orchards on Long Island will be killed by the scale within three years unless something on a larger plan than has heretofore been attempted is done to prevent the spread of the scale. The common plan is to spray with a mixture of twenty pounds of flowers of sulphur boiled with fifty pounds of slacked lime to fifty gallons of water. This mixture must be put on warm to be effective. In his orchards he had found a soluble oil known as scalecide to be the most effective. At the conclusion of the lecture the speaker answered a large number of questions addressed to him by fruit growers in the vast crowd.

the Southern Cross (From Lance Fallow's [Siberian and Oak] Ye nations born of Britain, Behold your royal standard of four Gold on black velvet written In skies below the Lion Like the spear-shine of Mary, Like shield of strap-hoist; For each in turn, Those bright points burn, By contrast, the white waters One star for snow and praise, One for the island-home, One for the belt Of bush and vine, One for the Barrier foam, Like head of horse and rider, And the little star for New Zealand, but under the stars, But never those starry daisies, Never o'er English waters, The fairy crescent rises, For must the banner follow Who stalks such lordly prey? For thro' the long train Must plunge the barque In phosphorescent sea, Where the wet white-fish wallow, And southern leopards swim, Where sunset glows, Along the hills, Where the white rose-field dwindle At any effort to believe that the French government, the situation is complicated by the contention of many competent authorities that the government has no right to interfere with various mayors and that the churches in a common and entirely beyond the jurisdiction of the federal authorities.

NOTE AND COMMENT

The sudden death of Rev. Father McAuley will be shocking news to many New Brunswickers. No less than eight Canadian railroads to reach Hudson's Bay are now projected and applications for so many charters have been made at Ottawa. The list includes the Canadian Pacific, the Grand Trunk Pacific, the Transatlantic & Northern Ontario, the Canada Central, the Quebec & Lake St. John, and the Great Northern.

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