

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 11, 1901.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Dec. 11, 1901.

Overcoat Time!

OAK HALL is without exception and without a doubt the Great Overcoat Store of St. John. We give more of sterling quality, at each price quoted, than any other store at same price. We believe you'll save 25 per cent. at Oak Hall whether you take our \$5.00 Beaver Overcoat or our Full Silk Lined \$20.00 Coat.

We have told you of our Coats at \$5.00 to \$15.00. Today we speak of our higher priced ones.

At \$16.00 A Self-backed Pattern Light Grey Herringbone Raglanette style, body linings to match and satin shoulder linings.

At \$18.00 A Dark Grey Raglanette with 3-4 inch welted seams, cuffs on sleeves, vertical pockets, velvet collar, check body linings and satin shoulder linings; a Dark Grey Twill, three-quarter length, box back with quilted satin shoulder linings and black worsted body lining; also, a Grey Melton with a smooth finished tweed body lining. Any of these Coats are the equal of custom made at \$26.00.

At \$20.00 A Fine Dark Grey with self-backing pattern, full facings, 1-2 inch welted seams, satin sleeve lining; a beautiful Dark Grey Vicuna, full satin lined.

Have you Had our Fall Style Book?

GREATER OAK HALL,

King Street, Cor. Germain.

SCOVIL BROS. & CO.,

St. John, N. B.

THE TELEGRAPH.
Sunday and Saturday
Advance, by The Tele-
graph, of St. John, a
copy not of the legisla-
tive.
J. MILLIGAN, Manager.
REVENUE RATES.
Special advertisements taking
a paper: Each insertion \$1.00
of Want, For Sales, etc.,
insertion of six lines or less.
Births, Marriages and Deaths \$2
each insertion.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
to the considerable number of com-
plaints to the misappropriation of letters ad-
vance to the Telegraph Publishing Company.
All letters for the business office of this
paper should be addressed to The Tele-
graph Publishing Company, St. John; and all cor-
respondence for the editorial department
should be sent to the Editor of The Tele-
graph, St. John.

FACTS FOR SUBSCRIBERS.
Without exception, names of new subscrib-
ers will not be entered until the money is
received.
Subscribers will be required to pay for
papers sent them, whether they take them
from the office or not, until all arrearages
are paid. There is no legal discontinuance
of a newspaper subscription until all that is
owed for is paid.
It is a well-established principle of law that a
man must pay for what he has. Hence
whoever takes a paper from the post office,
whether directed to him or somebody else,
must pay for it.

RULES FOR CORRESPONDENTS.
Write plainly and take special pains with
names.
Write on one side of your paper only.
Attach your name and address to your
communication as an evidence of good faith.
THIS PAPER HAS THE LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

AUTHORIZED AGENTS.
The following agents are authorized to can-
cel and collect for The Semi-Weekly Tele-
graph.
W. A. FERRIS.
Subscribers are asked to pay their subscrip-
tion to the agents when they call.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph
ST. JOHN, N. B. DECEMBER 11, 1901.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

As a great number of our sub-
scribers are interested in the
Census Guessing Competition, for
which prizes were offered to the
persons coming nearest to the cor-
rect enumeration of the population
for the Dominion of Canada, a
given out by the Minister of Agri-
culture from the results of the re-
cent census, we wish to advise the
readers of THE TELEGRAPH that
no announcement had yet been
made by the Minister of Agri-
culture.

As soon as the Hon. Mr. Fisher
has made the official statement
showing the results of the Census,
the coupons will be sorted out by
the Press Publishing Association of
Detroit, and the announcement
made of the prize winners in the
SEMI WEEKLY TELEGRAPH for sev-
eral issues, so that all may know
who the successful competitors were.

This will save our readers and
ourselves any trouble of corre-
spondence in regard to the compe-
tion.

THE TELEGRAPH PUBLISHING CO.

OTTAWA, Ont., Aug. 16.

SS PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION,

Toronto:

Figures are Five Million,

and and Thirty-eight

Eight Hundred and

but they are not

A. BLUE,

Director of Census.

Final figures can be

SS PUB. ASS'N

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Board of Fire

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St. John is and has been a bete noir to
almost all the fire insurance companies
on account of its very bad fire record.
High rates and heavy losses are not a
combination devoutly to be wished for
by the practical insurance agents. They,
as a matter of business policy, very much
prefer low rates and light losses, because
low rates increase the amount of business
handled sufficiently to make up any
loss of income occasioned by the decrease
in rates, while at the end of the year
their net results are not cut to a vanishing
point by the year's record. What the
public does not understand is that the fire
insurance agent rather depends for his
profits on the bonus given him by his
company at the year's end, based on the
year's profits in his agency, than he does
on the commissions retained by him on
the individual premiums. For this reason
the Board of Fire Underwriters would, we
believe, guarantee such action on their
part. But it is said the city finances
will not permit. Our answer is that St.
John can afford to erect costly and worth-
less pumping stations at Silver Falls; it
can afford to raise the dam of the lake at
present used as a source of supply; it can
afford to be generous in the purchase of
two-piped wharves. Let the waste stop,
and the money, which today is being fooled
away in temporary shifts to blind the
people to the serious need of an adequate
water supply, be applied in extending the
service to Loch Lomond. St. John cannot
afford to continue the present menace to
public and private interests which is in-
volved in an insufficient water service.

A RUDE AWAKENING.
The attempt to fasten upon the local
government the blame for the delay in
enforcing compulsory vaccination has
fallen back upon the authors of the silly
charge. The members of the board of
health and their legal adviser sprung the
charge upon an unsuspecting public just
24 hours too soon. If a day's delay had
been permitted to allow the legal fallacy
of the board's powerless condition to be
explored by the reference to the order
in council of December 28th, 1900, the
evening reprint of the Sun would not have
made itself even more ridiculous than
usual by its reference to matters which
it does not understand. A reference to
this order in council, which we published
in last Saturday's issue, ought to
thoroughly satisfy just as eminent legal
authorities as sit around the council table
of the board of health, or even as eminent
as their military legal adviser, that the
delay in action in enforcing compulsory
vaccination is something for which the
board of health must answer. The attempt
to fasten the onus for this upon the local
government is the more ridiculous when
it is remembered that up to date the lat-
ter has not been officially notified even
of the evidence of smallpox in St. John.
Neither the provincial secretary nor the
provincial board of health has received
the usual notice of the prevalence of the
disease from the local board of health,
but, fortunately, the provincial board
of health came to the rescue of the people
of this city from the terrible legal thral-
dom which had encircled the giant intelli-
gence of the board of health and its legal
adviser.

The legal contention raised by Colonel
Armstrong, that the action of the govern-
ment in council in delegating their powers
to the local board of health was ultra
vires, is exploded by the wording of the
order in council itself. It is as once ap-
parent to anyone who reads the order
in council that there was not a delegation
of authority, for the order itself provides
that compulsory vaccination shall be in
force "whenever in any health district
within the province of New Brunswick it
shall be found by the local board of health
for such district that a case of smallpox
exists." The afterthought which came to
the board's legal adviser when this fallacy
was exploded by the premier, that sec-
tion 2 of the order in council refers to a
city or town, whereas this health district
is the city and county of St. John, is still
more amusing, for, as the premier pointed
out, section 3 covers all districts which
are not considered either a city or town.
Having at last awakened to the fact
that these regulations for compulsory vac-
cination exist, and that no legal chains
prevent it from action, the St. John
board of health may now recognize the
y. devolving upon it to enforce com-
pulsory vaccination for the safety of the

'ICISM THAT BEARS FRUIT.
The board of health has been accused of
the board of health. We be-
lieve public will endorse us in
the criticism was necessary
in the interest of the com-
munity of the press which
list of the board is en-
sued the public with the
has no organs to de-
cism which is being
the public. That
the columns of

every daily in the city are available and
open to the board and any member for
reply, if they think the criticism unjust
and unfair. The only answer which has
been made to our severe arraignment of
the board's action was that of a light-
weight apologist who stated The Tele-
graph had blundered regarding the action
of the local government on the enforce-
ment of compulsory vaccination. In an-
other place we point out that there was
no blundering on the part of The Tele-
graph, but only another gross blunder on
the part of the board. We have no
apology to offer the board, but many such
are due the citizens from that body for
the numerous blunders of the board.
Now that it has been decided that the
board had power to enforce compulsory
vaccination, much of the work will have
to be repeated, and let us hope it will be
done systematically and thoroughly, and
not in a haphazard and happy-go-lucky
manner. The public vaccination has been
most imperfect. From investigations
which have been made it has been found
that there are blocks in several portions
of the city where the public vaccinator
has never made his appearance to vac-
cinate the inmates of the houses. This re-
minds us also that while the board of
health thought that the order-in-council
was not operative in this district, it
considered Regulation IV of the said
order was in force.

The board of health has not yet ex-
plained its dilatory action with reference
to the Morland epidemic hospital, which
is on a plane with its entire course since
smallpox made its appearance in this city.
The Telegraph approved of the purchase
of the property and had a good word for
the board at the time, believing that the
health authorities would pursue an en-
ergetic and efficient course. But when a
week passed and the house was still
found to be occupied by Mr. Morland,
and the board appeared to have dropped
into the old lethargic condition, The Tele-
graph believed it to be in the public inter-
est to remind the board of some of its fail-
ings. In other issues it has been pointed out
how it has been made possible for the
infection to be spread through the insuf-
ficient methods of the board of health,
and when the time comes we may publish
the result of our researches in this direc-
tion which will show that gross careles-
ness has existed at various times since
the Barton case.

THE ABETTERS OF INCOMPETENCY.

The extraordinary attitude assumed by
three of our local contemporaries in
undertaking to act as apologists for the
Board of Health is a matter which sober-
minded citizens cannot view lightly. For
any sane man to deliberately treat with
other than gravest concern a proceeding
which threatens not only the business of
our provincial metropolis, but the lives of
our citizens, is certainly incomprehensible.
It cannot be denied that our commercial
houses have been already at a loss of
many thousands of dollars through the
spread of smallpox in this city. It cannot
be denied that fifteen of our population
have succumbed to this dread disease since
the first case appeared. Nor can it be
denied that very much of this disastrous
record might have been averted had our
local Board of Health exerted the power
with which they had been clothed exactly
for such a purpose. Yet our contemporaries
referred to devote their space to
quibbling about matters of detail and en-
deavouring to belog and belound the status
of the public officials, ignoring the real
issue and the real situation.

The St. John Board of Health were ap-
pointed and empowered long ago expressly
that there might be ways and means
established to prevent such an epidemic
as that of smallpox, and to exterminate
it from our midst upon its very initial
appearance. They were appointed so that
the public might have full confidence in
their ability to accomplish such purpose.
They have surely had abundant time to
become conversant with their exact
powers and their duties. If they had
entertained any doubt of their ability or
their legal rights, they should have
their own credit resigned long ago. But
they have posed as the guardians of public
safety and the public have reposed con-
fidence in their ability, until the test came
and they have at the eleventh hour shown
ignorance even of the rules and regulations
that should govern their actions.

Is this a matter to be lightly viewed?
Is it a matter of small moment to the
community that death stalks among us in
a hideous form, that business is partially
paralyzed and that no one knows how
closely it may strike him tomorrow? Is it
credible to the city now to condone and
apologize for the neglect and supineness of
those appointed for the sole and only
purpose of protecting our city from such
a situation? Is it not rather a matter of
life and death that all wise citizens should
most seriously consider the conditions and
devise most prompt and stringent means
for improving our present most unsatis-
factory state of affairs?

It is surely folly to comfort ourselves
with the thought that we are not as badly
off as some other places are or have
been. It is entirely possible that it may
be equal folly to trust to luck for the
future and permit our existing health
board to continue to conduct affairs in a
fashion which has already permitted the
disease to spread from one solitary case
throughout the city. The Telegraph has
adopted in the past few weeks the only
course that common sense dictated to it.
It has faithfully chronicled the facts from
day to day and has warned the citizens to

do the best in their power to protect
themselves by the only precaution known
to science, that of vaccination. In place
of doing this our contemporaries have en-
deavored to clothe the question with a
political aspect and to abet the health
board in belittling the situation. Mean-
time from day to day fresh cases of small-
pox are reported and more deaths occur.
What would be thought of a railway en-
gineer running regardless of his rules,
signals and crossing orders, ignoring the
responsibilities of the passengers' lives en-
trusted to his care? What are our busi-
ness men going to do about it?

SUPREMACY ON THE SEA.

When it comes to a consideration of
Britain's supremacy upon the sea, per-
haps it is not a matter exclusively for the
navy. So long as her merchant marine
does the carrying trade for all the other
nations and is protected by a navy equal
to the fleets of France and Russia com-
bined, there really does not seem much
danger of Great Britain being starved to
death. It may not have been conspicu-
ously realized by all who help to make
the empire great that England handled
without difficulty the enormous task of
transporting her armies and supplies to
South Africa entirely in her own vessels,
while the United States even in her little
war with Spain was obliged to purchase
at fabulous prices many foreign vessels
for transport service to the West Indies.
And the South African war did not cripple
the British carrying trade in any ma-
terial degree. Supporting these vessels of
the British merchant marine should be
armed in the event of war, what combina-
tion of navies could stand against her?
It is true that the southern cruiser Ala-
bama did more toward sweeping the Amer-
ican commerce from the seas during the
civil war than did all the other causes,
but conditions have changed since then
and it is Britain now that has the Ala-
bamas as well as the commerce. In the
latest statistics show that there are as
many vessels under the British flag today
as under all other flags combined. Here
are the figures of tonnage holdings, both
steam and sail, of the ten principal mari-
time nations:

Great Britain	14,800,000
Germany	2,800,000
United States	2,700,000
France	1,400,000
Norway	1,382,000
Italy	1,181,000
Russia	1,052,000
Spain	847,000
Sweden	713,000
Holland	626,000

So far as steam tonnage is concerned,
the British lead is equally conspicuous, the
proportion of the above tonnage in steam
vessels being no less than 12,457,000, while
Germany continues second with 2,430,000
and the United States third with 1,268,000
tons. In fact Great Britain still holds 85
per cent of all the steam tonnage of the
world and this in a decrease of but five
per cent since 1890. So far as sail ton-
nage is concerned, the United States comes
second, with 1,300,000 tons, compared with
Great Britain's 2,332,000, but more than
91 per cent of the American imports and
exports continue to be carried in foreign
bottoms, principally British. These are the
figures for November 1st. Is it very much
wonder that other nations are jealous of
John Bull?

POOR POLITICS.

The Mail and Empire attacks the re-
vised census figures for Ontario and says they
betray the number of hours in a day,
any more than the fact of a man having
his breakfast in the afternoon and work-
ing all night, as do morning newspaper
men, can alter the fact of his afternoon
meal being his breakfast. If clocks are
set at Eastern standard time, it will not
be 6:30 when the business places close,
but 6 o'clock, the same as now, and the
clerks will not have to work any longer,
because they will not go to work before
the hour that the clock proclaims their
regular time in the morning. The only
advantage of the adoption of Atlantic
standard time is that it would give more
daylight after the close of business on
summer evenings and it would be easier
to calculate an exact hour's difference
from railroad time than an odd 30 min-
utes. The end of the year would be a
most auspicious occasion to make the
change and if our citizens take the neces-
sary action there is no reason why it
should not be accomplished.

MERELY THROWING BOUQUETS.

Sir Christopher Furness when in Syd-
ney, C. B., a short time ago, paid that
town various compliments. Sir Christo-
pher, on the eve of his departure from
New York for his return home, is quoted
as stating that he had made arrange-
ments for the creation of an immense
shipbuilding plant in Canada. The plant,
however, is not to be at Sydney. It is
to be at Sault Ste. Marie. Sir Christo-
pher, it is stated, is also to erect steel
works to cost approximately ten millions
of dollars. These works are, however, not
designed to particularly benefit Sydney.
They are to be close to the junction of
the "oo" canal and Lake Superior. Sir
Christopher was said to have greatly en-
joyed Sydney with his favorable im-
pressions of that port as a terminus
of a fast Atlantic line. Sir
Christopher, previous to his departure
New York, said that he proposed to
twelve great steamers. These, how-
ever, are not for any fast line. They are
jerry from six to ten thousand tons
of freight, and are for American trade,
built with nearly \$4,000,000 of capi-
tal furnished by Americans.
Perhaps Sir Christopher will make

THE TIME AGITATION.

The expressions of opinion in regard
to the advisability of adopting a unit
time system here, to which The Tele-
graph has been giving space for some days,
evidently relished by citizens. Strange
it may seem, however, some reasons

a mistaken and rather a selfish view of
the matter. It is not to be wondered at
that the banks, which do as they please
about most things, exhibit indifference as
to what action the public may take, but
such an attitude by independent citizens
who ought to take pride in doing what
will relieve their city from discredit and
ridicule by strangers, and likewise great-
ly facilitate the convenience of commerce,
can only be credited to an apathy of
despair at the idea of accomplishing any-
thing. It ought to be remembered that
the setting of clocks cannot increase or
diminish the number of hours in a day,
any more than the fact of a man having
his breakfast in the afternoon and work-
ing all night, as do morning newspaper
men, can alter the fact of his afternoon
meal being his breakfast. If clocks are
set at Eastern standard time, it will not
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utes. The end of the year would be a
most auspicious occasion to make the
change and if our citizens take the neces-
sary action there is no reason why it
should not be accomplished.

enough money as the result of his trip to
prove it a profitable venture, but what
about all those nice things he was telling
the people of Sydney? It's a shame to
disappoint people by raising their hopes
and then passing them by, Sir Christo-
pher.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The York county by-election will be
held on the 28th inst.

The resolution of the Halifax Board of
Trade recommending the handing over of
the I. C. R. to the C. P. R. will receive
very little support in Canada generally.

A press despatch states on the authority
of an eminent American senator, that
the pending reciprocity treaties of the
United States are now so effectually
pigeonholed that it will not be possible
to pry them out with a jimmy.

Germany has started to buy Kentucky
whiskey and has sent a sample order for
250,000 gallons. Germany has some colonies
already, with beer as a national beverage,
but when the blue grass blend is let loose
the rest of Europe had better look out.

The Tories of Ontario are dismayed at
the election of Hon. Mr. Garrow in West
Huron by 300 of a majority. The Tory
cry was "remember Ross," and the elec-
torate took them at their word and re-
membered Ross by sending him another
follower.

The collapse of the reciprocity move-
ment at Washington may act as a
damper to the ship subsidy bill. If the
manufacturers of the United States are
so indifferent to export trade they cannot
expect congress to grant \$9,000,000 per
year in subsidies to stimulate the trade.

The sincerest sympathy of the city of
St. John and the province of New Brun-
swick in particular, and of the Dominion
of Canada in general, will be extended to
the Hon. A. G. Blair in the sad and sud-
den affliction which befell him yesterday
through the loss, by accidental drowning,
of his daughter.

The civic authorities should, of course,
do everything practicable to aid the es-
tablishment of a mill in this city which
means the disbursement of \$800 a week
in wages, and the further development of
our most rural industry. Particulars of
this enterprise, already intimated, are
given in our news columns today.

The evening Tory organ remarks that
the Board of Health "would be more ef-
fective if removed from the main of
party politics and strengthened by the

appointment of a medical head." Th
sounds rather rough on our doctor may
and the elements of the board that electe
the chairman of the Conservative As-
sociation as its legal adviser.

Mr. J. G. H. Bergeron, ex-M. P., once
a leading light in the Tory ranks, made a
speech in St. John strongly favoring the
sending of the contingent to South Africa.
The other day he gave a two column in-
terview in which he strongly opposed the
sending of more men to that country. He
has become infected with Sir Charles Tup-
per's ideas of one policy for Quebec and
another for the English provinces.

The experts of the American Society of
Mechanical Engineers have declared that
where it costs one dollar per mile to run
the locomotive of a very train, it costs
two dollars per mile to run an express
or limited locomotive at the rate of a mile
a minute. This increased cost is grouped
into six divisions—fuel consumption, wear
and tear, breakage to machinery, injury
to track, delay to other trains to give a
clear track and accident.

It is encouraging to all lovers of pets
and poultry that the New Brunswick
association which recently held an exhibi-
tion of dogs and fowls in this city have
felt so encouraged that they have resolved
to repeat the feature next year. With
this year's experience to guide the manag-
ment and the choice of a more advantage-
ous weather period, there is no reason
why this exhibition should not become one
of the best society affairs of every year.

Our local meat men find a very material
stimulus to their trade through the making
of St. John the winter terminus for so
many steamers. The liners in the trans-
atlantic trade buy their whole supply of
meat here for the round trip, as they
can obtain meat so much cheaper here
than on the other side. Each of the mail
ships purchases from six to eight thousand
pounds of beef per trip, besides mutton,
lamb, poultry, etc. Under the Tory gov-
ernment at Ottawa all this trade went
to Portland, Me.

The sudden loss of one of the most
bright and promising young members of a
family is a matter for grief that sincerest
sympathy cannot do much to lighten, but
if anything could tend to make their grief
easier to bear it must be the knowl-
edge to the Hon. A. G. Blair and his remain-
ing family that such sympathy comes from
highest to the lowest in the land.
Despatches record today that the Pr
and Princess of Wales, the secretar
state for the colonies, and Lord St
cona have cabled heartfelt condolence
the Minister and Mrs. Blair in their
bereavement.