THE EDMONTON BULLETIN

(SEMI-WEEKLY.)

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DUNCAN MARSHALL,
Manager.

MONDAY, MAY 31, 1909.

NOT A POSSIBLE ENEMY.

It has long been a British maxim that Britain's fleet should equal in strength any two fleets that might be combined against it.

There were two ways of securing this preponderance. Either Britain had to launch a new battleship for every one built by any other maritime power; or Britain must use her overpowering fleet to prevent other nations buildings fleets—by threats or by gunfire, as might be necessary.

Wise or otherwise, Britain chose the pacific course and matched herself against the world in a race for naval construction. She presumed no right to prevent others building ships, nor did she raise pretexts on which to destroy their small but growing fleets. Instead, she admitted that anyone who wanted to build a warship was free to do so and announced her intention of building one as good or a trifle better.

It was a heroic course, whether the wisest in the long run or not. If it erred, it erred in the direction of international freedom of action, of non-interference, of peace so long as peace were possible, and of trusting that peace would always be compatible with her own security. Britain has held in her hands the fate of the German and of every other fleet in the world, for by a sudden concentration and attack at some time or other she could have destroyed any one of them. Wisely or unwisely she held her hand and allowed them to grow in security, each one putting upon her as it grew the burden of building more warships.

So far Britain has kept ahead in the race. Her fleet in tonnage, gunfire and men has been more powerful than any two that might be sent against it. But she could not hope to maintain the pace forever. After all Britain is only a cluster of small islands, burdened with the support of a tremendous and rapidly increasing population. There must be a limit in the amount she could put into armament in a year; and in all the world there was certain to be found some two nations who together could stand the strain longer than she.

That limit has been reached. Premier Asquith announced the other day that in reckoning the two power standard there is one fleet which is not taken into account. And the opposition leader was wise enough to not say that it should be taken into account. That fleet belongs to the United States. The fleet of the Republic is not considered one of the two that must be matched in number and strength by British warships. The two-power standard has no relation to the naval force of the United States, though that force is now the second in the world.

To the jingoists this, of course, will be a fresh occasion for wailing over Britain's impending fate. But more sober minded Britishers will see nothing of dangerous significance in it. The United States fleet may some day be despatched against Britain, but it will only be when the people of the Republic have parted with their last grain of national common sense. For the day that saw the downfall of Britain would witness the destruction of the one power that may be relied upon to never declare war against the Republic, nor to countenance an alliance against her strong enough to imperil her standing. It is not so long since a British premier smashed a combination of European powers with the declaration that an alliance against the United States would be considered an act of hostility toward Britain. Under like conditions any man likely to be entrusted with the presidency of the Republic may be relied upon to issue a similar ultimatum in behalf of the British Empire.

It is not sentiment alone that ensures the friendship of these powers. They are driven together as well as drawn together. The instinct of self-preservation unites them. Its own downfall excepted, nothing worse could happen to either than that the other should be crippled. Were either destroyed, the distant possessions, the commercial interests, the national status and even the security of the other would be tremendously lessened. Neither is likely to so far depart from sense as to be a party to bringing this calamity upon itself. They may well ignore each other in counting up their possible foes. It would be folly to do other.

CURRENT COMMENT.

A family of ten were killed by an express near Ottawa—no doubt on a level crossing.

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One man at the Fort thinks there are worse things than being in jail in wet weather.

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The Edmonton ball team has moved up to second place from the top. The Calgary bunch fittingly occupy the same relative position at the other end of the list.

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Sodom and Gomorrah perished in a volcanic eruption. It may be in keeping that Chicago trembles from an earthquake. But why should Winnipeg be shaken?

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Mr. Harriman and Mr. Hill have signed a treaty and will build no more railways to compete with each other. Peace hath her victories as well as war, at the expense of the non-combatants.

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The Mail and Empire is of course displeased with the new minister of labor. The family compact was notoriously displeased with his grandfather. The reputation of neither gentleman suffers from his dislike in these quarters.

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Mr. Roosevelt says he has no newspaper correspondents with him and that any special despatches about the expedition are either pure inventions or the result of bribery. East Africa must be peopled with fictionists or Tammany hall graduates.

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Quite likely there will be another side to the story of how and why the terrible Mormons of Magrath treated the gentleman whose wife wouldn't or couldn't live with him. A man is not commonly used in that way without the public thinking they have cause for it.

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Having made an end of the revolution the Young Turks are now making an end of the revolutionists. Reports from the punitive expedition into the Adana district have not begun to come in yet. They should be similar in character and generous in bulk.

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On April 30th the Canadian banks had $524 millions loaned for commercial purposes, against 520 millions on March 31st and 507 millions on February 28th. The increasing demand for money reflects the returning business activity of the country. The increasing loans indicate that the banks are meeting the demand liberally.

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Calgary city council expelled the reporters and the public from a meeting on Wednesday evening when the aldermen assembled to discuss the mix up over the city hall building. Next morning the Albertan printed a five column report of what was said and done at the meeting. If those aldermen know when they are kicked down a flight of stairs they will abandon the attempt at secret sessions.

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According to Bradstreets' there were 28 million bushels of wheat in the United States on May 15th, against 25 millions a year ago; 10 millions against 3 millions in Canada; and 64 millions in Europe and afloat against 78 millions last May; a total of 102 millions against 112 millions. So far, therefore, as the present boom in wheat prices has any relation to the quantity of the cereal available it is founded on a shrinkage of 10 million bushels, coupled with more or less reliable prophecies of unfavorable yields from the crops now growing. A ten million bushel decrease out of a total of 112 millions does not seem anything to be alarmed about. The boom is founded more on prophecy than statistics.

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There are thirty-five vacancies in the Ottawa civil service and only six applicants for the places. For shame! Where are our boastful patriots? Of all the host who long for glory or a grave for their dear country's sake, six only volunteer to brave the hardships of the Ottawa climate and close in mortal combat with a government job. That, too, when the tennis season is upon us and holidays are at hand. Must then the country's letters go unwritten, its books unkept, because a mean-spirited generation lacks inclination to the public service—duly recompensed? Whence this aloofness? Perish the thought that this is the reflex consequence of Judge Cassels' report.

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France spends about five times as much on her army as she does on the intellectual training of her children. Germany gives to educational purposes one-third of the amount she devotes to military purposes. In Austria and Russia the proportion between school and caserne expenditure is as two to nine. Italy spends upon her army nine times as much as she devotes to public education. Belgium is exemplary in that her military and education budget stand as eight to four. The only exception to this rule of priority in military expenditure is Switzerland which devotes twice as much to the education of her children as she lays out on the purchase of powder and shot and the pay of her defenders.

The Mail and Empire has discovered that "no man should receive the nomination as the candidate (for Parliament) of any constituency, who refuses to pledge himself to resist every encroachment attempted upon the ground of provincial self-government." Which may be taken as evidence that there is hope for the most abandoned; or as proof that Satan can quote scripture. But there is a complementary Liberal doctrine that the Mail would do well to ponder. No man should be honored with the nomination of any party in any constituency who is not equally prepared to defend the rights and powers of the Dominion from the unpatriotic hostility that seems to be the groundwork of certain provincial politicians. The man who is for his province first and his country second is not worthy to represent either.

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The Nova Scotia coast was swept by storms on Sunday and Monday that swamped and wrecked the fishing fleet, smashed the lobster traps and flooded buildings along the shore. In Oklahoma meantime swollen rivers were sweeping people to their death, inundating crops and drowning stock. Alberta got nothing worse than a thorough soaking which provided one half of the conditions of phenomenal crop growth. The other half is being supplied by the summer weather that has succeeded. As a result vegetation is making as rapid progress in a day as it commonly makes here in two and in the older provinces in three or four. The virgin soil and long days of the West are justly reputed as miracle workers in the quick production of crops. They are surpassing themselves now and will continue to do so if June brings the normal admixture of showers and sunshine. There is absolutely nothing in the conditions up to date to prevent a bumper crop in 1909.

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The Ottawa Citizen says: "Of the land grants issued to South African veterans 654 have been located by the veterans themselves, and 1,102 grants have been located by substitute. As it is estimated that about 8,000 land warrants have been or are to be issued only 25 per cent. of them have been exchanged for land so far." The other seventy-five per cent are being hawked about by speculators with no compensating benefit to either veteran or country. The former in most cases likely got far less than the scrip was worth and the country has so far got no settlement for three of every four warrants issued. This should be the last attempt to discharge a national obligation with a gift of land. There is only the difference of a letter between land "grant' and land "graft," and in this case the speculator seems to have made the two synonymous to the loss of both the soldier and the country.

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The citizens will no doubt accommodate themselves willingly to the Wednesday half holiday in the stores during the summer months by "shopping early." The man behind the counter has by no means the easiest job in the community. He begins fairly early in the morning and on Saturdays and days preceding holidays he stays at it late—sometimes even till midnight. Public sympathy is even more deserved by the lady clerks than by those of the sterner and stronger sex. While the council did not feel free to order a merchant to close his place of business for half of a business day the purchasing public will no doubt do what they can to facilitate the success of the movement voluntarily adopted by a large number of the shopkeepers. And in reality the buyers hold the fate of the arrangement in their hands. If they favor it and govern themselves accordingly the half holiday for the clerks will be assured. If they do not do so it will quickly be abandoned. The people who buy fix the hours during which buying and selling is done.

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Premier Asquith declines to count the United States among the naval powers that might be combined against Britain. In consequence, the fleet of the Republic is not considered in calculating the ships needed to maintain the two-power standard. In Parliament he justified the course on the ground of naval effectiveness—the only ground on which he would be at liberty to justify it speaking as premier and in Parliament. It hardly needs be said that another reason endorses the decision in the public mind—and probably in Mr. Asquith's mind, too. Jingoists to the contrary, and our family spats notwithstanding, neither Britain nor the United States has any notion of assisting in the destruction of the other. Each can get along very well without trying to grab the other's property, and each has a pretty clear idea that its own property would be less secure if the other were crippled. There is no need for either to count the other among its enemies.

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People neither brutally inclined nor even hard-hearted will shed few tears over the wholesale hangings in Constantinople. From the despatches it appears the punishment is preceded by trial and conviction. Perhaps among the sufferers are some who pay the penalty for their political activities rather than for any crimes. But in this case the result of the political upheaval was a massacre of appalling proportions. Whether it was inspired by reactionary officials as there is some reason to suppose, or whether it was made possible by the paralysis of the government's power, a measure of blame rests upon the revolutionists who overthrew for the time the Young Turks party and reinstituted the regime of unbridled tyranny. If there had been no uprising against the constitutional government it is scarcely conceivable that the Adana affair could have occurred. If the progressive party in Turkey hope to make their position secure the principals in the recent revolt must be exterminated and a wholesome lesson taught those who might be disposed to follow in their path. The hope of decent government in Turkey being centred in the Young Turks, little fault will be found with the stern measures necessary to consolidate their power.

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It is easy enough from this distance to censure the Arkansas men who in spite of the threats of a judge, broke into a penitentiary and lynched a negro accused of assault on a white woman. That is because from a distance one looks on the offence with cool reason and says the law should be left to inflict the penalty; while in the presence of the crime cool reason gives way to passion. The setting aside of law ought of course to be always deplored and must be punished if proper respect for it is to be preserved. It is to be said for these men, however, that they wore no masks, thus assuming full personal responsibility for the blood they shed. This suggests that the law may not hold a very high place in the opinions of a large proportion of that community. Justice delayed, or a popular belief that justice has been outwitted by legal cleverness, sometimes begets an impatience with law and an unwillingness to rely upon it for the punishment of crime and the protection of life and property. The mills of the gods may have ground too slowly or not finely enough in that section in days gone by. This, of course, would not excuse the crime of the lynching, but it would explain it.

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On June 18th the ratepayers vote on six bylaws. Four authorize the raising of money for donating $50,000 to the new city hospital building, for purchasing the hay market site, for purchasing the Macdonald property to complete the present market, and for purchasing two sites for fire halls. Another bylaw authorizes the running of Sunday cars and the last regulates the sale of newspapers on the streets. There will not likely be any opposition to the money bylaws as such. The objects are generally conceded worthy and expedient and in some cases absolutely necessary. Opposition may, however, develop toward the proposed hay market site. This might have been avoided if the choice of several sites had been left to the ratepayers—as is done in the case of the hospital. The Sunday car bylaw will no doubt awaken considerable discussion, though it is doubtful if the discussion affects the outcome. There seems to be a general conviction that Edmonton does not need Sunday cars now or at any very early date, and that the inception of the service would be unfortunate financially. On both moral and financial grounds the weight of opinion is against the proposal and it is doubtful if it can be materially shifted. The bylaw relating to the sale of newspapers is the result of a movement begun by the provincial superintendent of neglected and dependant children. It has the worthy object of shielding young children—particularly little girls—from the undesirable influences under which this occupation brings them and if the bylaw as drafted seems well designed to accomplish this without working injury in other directions it will doubtless be endorsed at the polls.

MUST WHACK UP.

Calgary Albertan—It seems that the city of Calgary has decided not to break with the fakirs who visit this city in large numbers very frequently, but instead of that will insist upon a larger percentage of the rake off. Heretofore the city has allowed the fakirs to come and do business here upon payment of $25. But in future, so the city hall reporter of the Albertan learns, it will cost a visitor of that undesirable kind $100 before he can go forth and begin business of fleecing the more innocent and ignorant of our population.

THE SESSION.

Montreal Herald—The first session of the new parliament did little but transact business. After a pre-election session marked by obstruction and displays of bad blood, we have had a post election session in which the aim has been to get through quickly, and in which there have been but one or two outbreaks of fervid antagonism. It has been a business session, rather than a political session, and the business done has not been of a sort to put the opposing parties very far apart. The estimates were pared to the bone before being submitted, this being made necessary both by the diminished buoyancy in the revenue and the extraordinary expenditure on the National Transcontinental railway. The desire to make party capital did not carry the opposition to very great lengths of resistance when it was proposed to support the credit of the Grand Trunk Pacific by a loan of ten millions. The insurance bill was a measure whose fate was determined by individual judgment on the part of all the members. The amendments to the railway law, especially those having to do with level crossings, were passed with practical unanimity. And the House was quite unanimous when facing the one serious incident of the session, that arising out of the naval scare in England

24 YEARS AGO TO-DAY

River falling slightly.

Dance at C. Fraser's last night.

No troops have been left in the garrison at Victoria.

The telegraph line to Peace Hills was completed on Wednesday last.

There are rumors of Sioux being seen in the neighborhood of Edmonton.

W. S. Robertson left for Calgary on Wednesday per saddle, taking one pack horse.

The report that part of Pa-Kan's band had joined Steel's scouts turns out to be untrue.

A cart train was dispatched to the Athabasca Landing on Tuesday with Hudson's Bay supplies.

All the creeks are booming, the water being higher than it has been for several years.

L. Kelly has opened a first-class restaurant in the addition to his saloon, on Main street.

The Pipestone bridge was carried away by high water but has been replaced by an outgoing freight train.

The thirst dance at Riviere Qui Barre reserve terminated quietly on Wednesday. Nothing has come of it as yet.

Shots were exchanged between sentries and horse thieves on Monday night last at Peace Hills farm. No one hurt.

A change has been made in the location of the C.P.R. line down the west side of the Selkirks, which lengthens it three miles.

From the 28th of March to the 12th of May a total of fully 500 persons have been killed and wounded between Frog Lake and Batoche, on the Saskatchewan.

A military hospital has been established at Victoria, in charge of J. A. Youmans, mission school teacher at Whitefish Lake. Fifteen men of General Strange's force are in the hospital.

Charles Gouin, one of the men killed at Frog Lake, resided for some years at Fort Saskatchewan. He was a British Columbian and came by way of Peace River.

A heavy hail storm visited the country of the Bow river trail about twenty miles south of Edmonton on Tuesday evening last. Hailstones lay several inches deep on the ground when it was over.

A notice is posted on the door of the Indian Office, signed E. Dewdney, warning Indians to keep upon their reserves to avoid being mistaken for rebels, also offering $50 reward to any Indian assisting in capturing a scout of Riel's.

The Hudson Bay Company ceased cashing military vouchers on Wednesday morning last. Arrangements are being made by the supply officer to secure the payment of these documents with all possible dispatch.

The courier on the beat from Peace Hills to Edmonton was halted by an Indian when on his way in on Tuesday. The Indian seized his bridle and was laid out by a blow from the butt of the courier's revolver.

A portion of the Whitefish Lake band of Indians arrived in town on Saturday, accompanied by E. R. Steinhauer, the Methodist mission teacher at Goodfish Lake. They required provisions, which were furnished by the Indian agent. They left on Wednesday.

The rifles with which the last train of teamsters coming in from Calgary were armed were taken from them on their return trip and kept here. Fifteen were sent to St. Albert on Saturday to arm the detachment of the St. Albert home guard on scouting service. Three more were sent out on Monday.

Saturday was a busy day at the supply office in the Fort. One hundred carts were dispatched to Victoria, loaded. Over one hundred wagons were sent to Calgary light, three scows were loaded, outfitted and started down the river with No. 4 company of the Light Infantry on board and all was done by one o'clock in the afternoon.

Night before last Mr. Thomas Anderson, crown timber agent, resident on the south side, near the Indian reserve, had two horses, a cow and two young animals stolen from his field. Tah-Koots and seven or eight of the Two Hills band of Crees disappeared the same night, and it is supposed have accompanied the stock. They had not been pursued up to yesterday evening.

Mrs. St. Germain, wife of the man now held prisoner at Fort Saskatchewan, as a spy of Reil's, came in from Battle River on Monday last. She knows nothing of her husband having any correspondence with Riel. She says that, being hard up this spring, he sold a horse to Mr. Lucas, at the government farm, and came in to Edmonton to get the price received in supplies, with which to put in his crop. His arrest has left her practically destitute, and as she has a son lying at the point of death of consumption, the case is one of peculiar hardship. During the Red River rebellion her husband was imprisoned by Riel because he would not take part in it. She came in to see her husband and to procure some assistance for the support of herself and family.

Arumor was current in town on Saturday last that a party of half-breeds, headed by Riel, had been seen near the Sturgeon River mill on the previous day, and created quite an excitement, as many people did not believe the report of his capture. The story was that on Friday evening a party of three men, well mounted and armed, two of them half-breeds and the third a white man, were seen coming towards Edmonton on the Athabasca trail. They called at a house and enquired if the parties had seen an old man drive past a short time before. They were answered in the negative, when they turned and went towards the mill. They met one of the lay brothers who are employed at the mill and repeated the enquiry to him in English. He did not understand them and they asked again in French. He had not seen such a person and asked them where they were from and where they were going. They replied that they were from Lac La Biche and were going to Edmonton. They then rode back on the road they came on. In times like the present suspicions are easily aroused, and when the neighbors talked the matter over and the white man was described to one who knew Riel well, the conclusion that the stranger was the rebel chief was jumped at. The supposition was that Riel had eluded Middleton after his defeat and had come to Edmonton to raise trouble here and make his final stand, as was reported to be his first intention. Word was taken to Fort Saskatchewan at once, but no notice was taken of the matter. There was quite a talk concerning the affair all day Saturday until it became known that the notorious Riel was Peter Pruden, a trader of Lac La Biche, who, for safety, had come in by the Athabasca road, and the old man he was enquiring for was his father, who had taken a wrong trail.

More New Elevators.

Macleod, May 28—Nineteen new grain elevators are to be built in Alberta this summer, and work is to commence at once. This was the statement of Mr. H. F. Gillespie, representing the Great West Grain & Elevator Co., of Brandon, made at Calgary recently. The Great West Co., of Brandon has recently been brought up by the National Elevator Co., of Buffalo, which is extending its operations into Western Canada. With a capital of $2,500,000, the Canadian business of the National Elevator Co., will be carried on under the name of the Great West Grain & Elevator Co. The locations of the new elevators are Macleod, Grannum, Claresholm, Stavely, Nanton, Cayley, High River, Crossfield, Carstairs, Red Deer, Alix, Erskine, Stettler, Camrose, Bawlf, Daysland, Killam, Strome and Sedgewick. To handle the Alberta business the head offices for the Province will be located in Calgary.

Roger's Will.

New York, May 28.—The will of Henry H. Rogers was filed today. He leaves his wife the New York city residence, and all therein with stables, and provides a trust fund giving her a hundred thousand dollars annually. The residence and real estate at Fairhaven is given to their son Henry and various trust funds are created for the benefit of relatives. The residuary estate is divided into four trusts, one for the benefit of each of his children.

RIFLED MAIL BAGS AND OPENED LETTERS

Police Believe the Union Pacific Gang Were Also the Robbers of the Great Northern.

Omaha, Neb., May 28.—Beginning with the capture shortly after 12 o'clock last night of three men on whom suspicion of having been implicated in the holdup and robbery of the Union Pacific Overland Limited last Saturday night, developments today in the case were thick, fast and important, the last one being the discovery of the rifled registered pouches and the recovery of several bushels of registered letters, all of which had been opened, and contents, whereever consisting of cash, taken. Tonight the suspects are in close confinement in the city jail and all refuse to make any statement connecting them with the case. They even deny knowledge of each other. The Omaha police are now confident that the robbers of the Union Pacific are identical with those who held up and robbed the Great Northern express near Spokane, Wash., on May 15, and for whom rewards of $66,000 have been offered. Including the rewards of $24,000 for the Union Pacific robbers, these men now have a price of $90,000 on their heads.

BOUND FOR EDMONTON

Strange Delusion of North Dakota Man Who Reaches Calgary.

Calgary, May 26.—A man named O. G. Allen wandered into the police station last night and asked to be locked up for protection. He is suffering from a delusion that someone is following him to drug him, and for that reason is afraid to sleep or eat. Through lack of rest and food he has worn himself almost to a skeleton and last night was almost too weak to walk.

Allen only reached the city yesterday from Dakota, and has a ticket to Edmonton, near which place he says he has relatives.

At one time he was a school teacher, and he has also served as a soldier in the United States army.

On all other subjects he is quite rational, but believes firmly that enemies are trying to drug him, although he does not know who they are or why he should be drugged. Last night he told the police that he had been kept drugged for two months in Lewiston, Mont., and it is to escape his enemies that he has come to Canada.

He was locked up for the night and will probably be allowed to go north today.

Car Men Called Out.

Philadelphia, May 28.—A strike of the conductors and motermen of all the cit year lines was ordered tonight by the Carmen's Union and the officers of the international organization. The managers of the Rapid Transit company say that they have hundreds of men ready to take the places of all who quit.

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MERCHANTS ADOP HALF HOLIDA

City Retailers Agree to C ness Places Wednesday During Summer.

The action of the city endorsing the petition for day half holiday has given ment the needed impetus. council meeting Tuesday matter has been taken up merchants with the result tically all stores have sign willingness to close on We 12 o'clock, starting on th Wednesday in June and until the last Wednesday There is talk of a big pi held on the afternoon of Ju first half-holiday, to inaug event in proper manner. A men who signed the agre in fact all who favor the are requested to advertise the movement being adopte

PEROLA CAPTURED

King's Entry was Favorit ished Second.

Epsom Downs, May 2 Cooper's Perola, who ran the one thousand guinea market behind Electra and de Galles, reversed that afternoon by winning the fillies' Derby," run over a half and worth five thou reigns to the winner. T well-backed filly, Princess les, was second, and the thus disappointed of anot classic victory. J. B. J was third. Electra was but she was left at the post crowd journeyed from Epsom in hopes of ch King's horse and the money behind the Royal established her favorite in ing, the next fancied bel and then W. W. Waldo Third Trick. Perola was tive outsider, which was surprising seeing the smart had shown in the early pa season, particularly when the Woodcote Stakes at Eps sale meeting and the Exc at Newmarket. She fell ever, later on in the season by Persimmon out of Edn one of the best bred training.

Perola won by two lengt same distance separating and third. Betting was 5 t Perola, 11 to 2 against P Galless, and 25 to 1 again Electra being the even me ite. Fourteen started, the including the best fillies as follows: Third trick, M Mist, Balnacoil, Markara, inga, Electra, Lady Vist trix Santa Bella and Bon

Inquiry at Stettle

Stettler, May 28.—Some petition was presented to enant-Governor in Council about two hundred reside neighborhood of Williston, the removal of William that place, from the offic of the peace and the cance commission. In conseq of, an enquiry was held barracks on Wednesday A. Y. Blain, inspector of Several of the citizens of gave evidence of irregula as to Banks' repute in t Mr. E. C. Lock appeared tioners. Banks appeared and gave evidence on half. His wife also charges of misconduct at before her husband, at a she was present. The ev be laid before the Lieuten nor.

Secretaries Consolid

Toronto, Ont., May 2 Bert Roadhouse, an Evenin reporter, has received a as secretary to Hon. James ister of agriculture and the department in place Varley, who resigned a ago. The appointment w fect from June 1st. Mr. a few days ago also recei pointment of secretary commission.

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