

Public Ownership Scores.

The information is conveyed by Premier Ross that trains will be running regularly on the new Temiskaming Railway from North Bay to New Liskeard by Oct. 1. The road is completed to the 57th mile from North Bay, and trains are running three times a week over this portion, a stage line covering the remainder of the trip to New Liskeard. The cost of construction has been about \$25,000 per mile, and the equipment will cost about \$5,000 per mile. This compares very favorably with other railroad systems, the Canada Atlantic costing \$47,000 per mile, the Canadian Southern \$85,500, the Canadian Northern \$37,000, the Grand Trunk \$105,000, the C. P. R. \$52,100, the Intercolonial \$51,000 and the Quebec and Lake St. John \$58,100. The Temiskaming Railway will be of high standard, with 80-pound rails and easy grades. The Premier pays a compliment to the railway commission for the economical and judicious management of the construction. The road will be extended 80 miles north of New Liskeard, surveys having been already made. This will carry it to within 150 or 200 miles of James Bay, and it is not improbable that before many years it will reach the shores of that great inland sea.

The financing of the road has been attended with difficulties owing to the temporary stringency in the money market. The bonds could not be floated with advantage in England, nor could a short-term loan be secured in London at lower rates than in Canada. A one-year loan at 5 per cent was negotiated with Toronto banks, but it will be taken up by the Government which will advance public money until the bonds can be profitably disposed of. The Government is now earning 3 per cent on its money, so that a saving of 2 per cent will be effected by taking the loan out of the hands of the banks.

The Temiskaming road is the first experiment in public ownership of railways by any Provincial Government. The rapidity, economy and efficiency shown in its construction challenge comparison with anything in the history of railway enterprise in this country. If the operation of the road is attended by the same measure of success as the construction, the Province may congratulate itself. In any event a great impetus will be given to the settlement and development of the clay belt of 16,000,000 acres lying to the west and north of Lake Temiskaming. The Government may decide that the road can be more economically operated under lease to the Grand Trunk or C. P. R., but if so the public will retain control of the rates in the interests of the settlers of the district and of the manufacturers and distributors in old Ontario, who will find a growing market there.

The War.

Having disabled five Russian warships at Port Arthur, the Japanese have followed up their initial success by attempting to invest the fortress by land, but so far have not succeeded in disembarking troops. The capture of Port Arthur would crush Russia's naval strength in Asiatic waters at one blow. A fleet is powerless unless it has a base for repairs, supplies, coal, etc. Vladivostok is Russia's only naval base on the Pacific coast, besides Port Arthur, and Vladivostok is 1,200 miles away and frozen up. Cut off from Port Arthur the remnant of Russia's squadron there would be worse than useless. The Japanese if they seized Port Arthur would not only put the enemy's squadron out of business, but would come into the possession of large stores of coal and munitions, and would use the fortress as the base of land operations against Russia. Even as it is the Russian ships appear to be hopelessly bottled up in the harbor and Japan is so confident of having secured command of the sea that she is already pouring troops into the Korean peninsula.

If it is true, as reported, that a bridge on the Manchurian Railway has been blown up, the event is deeply significant. This railway, upon which Russia must depend for the strength of her armies, runs through Manchuria territory for 1,500 miles. While the Manchurians have been quiescent under the Russian occupation of the province, it is believed their sympathies are with Japan because of racial affinity. Two weeks ago the Port Arthur correspondent of the Paris edition of the New York Herald telegraphed his paper as follows:

"I have interviewed a military officer who says that the Second Field Battery of eight guns and the Tenth Siberian Regiment are leaving Port Arthur for the Yalu tomorrow. They may probably occupy Wiju and make Yalu a Russian river, with the object of protecting Manchuria from a Japanese invasion. Russian officers who have been interviewed are impressed with Russia's isolation. Even the Chinese are untrustworthy. I met a Chinaman here doing work for the Russians, who confided to me his preference for the Japanese and his hatred for Russia. Chinese regular troops in disguise are giving the Russians great trouble in Manchuria."

It has been predicted that the first success of Japan will be the signal for the Manchurian Chinese to rise against the Russian intruders. The task of protecting 1,500 miles of railway in a hostile country will be appalling, as the British discovered in South Africa. It is said that Japanese in disguise have been working on the railway or have

came. A chronic interruption of the line would be fatal to Russia's operation on land. The United States has injected a new element into the situation by inviting the powers to guarantee the integrity of China. This will be offensive to Russia, which has marked out Manchuria for her own, but as the note which Secretary Hay has sent to the foreign offices of Europe makes no mention of Korea, it will not run counter to Japanese designs. The course taken by Secretary Hay is bold and aggressive, and shows how far the United States has drifted from her old moorings. In this instance she has rushed in where other nations have feared to tread, but her action is in thorough accord with British policy.

The Dominion Bye-Election.

Ten bye-elections for the House of Commons will be held before Parliament assembles. Eight of these—East Lambton and East Bruce, in Ontario; Hochelaga, St. Hyacinthe, St. James division of Montreal, and Montmagny, in Quebec; St. John city in New Brunswick; and West Queen's, in Prince Edward Island—will be held on Tuesday next. Gaspe, Que., follows a week later. The date for the bye-election in Guysboro, N. S., has not been fixed. The votes in these ten constituencies at the general election of 1900 were as follows:

East Lambton—	2,637
Simmons, Con.	2,416
Fraser, Lib.	221
East Bruce—	1,806
Cargill, Con.	1,763
Connans, Lib.	41
Hochelaga, Que.—	4,093
Madore, Lib.	3,458
Lachapelle, Con.	635
St. Hyacinthe, Que.—	2,247
Bernier, Lib.	1,186
Cartier, Con.	1,111
St. James' Division, Montreal—	3,556
Desmarais, Lib.	1,615
Pagnuelo, Con.	1,641
Montmagny, Que.—	1,186
Martineau, Lib.	973
Bernier, Con.	213
Gaspe, Que.—	2,177
Lemieux, Lib.	815
Beaudry, Con.	1,362
St. John, N. B.—	4,520
Blair, Lib.	3,523
Poster, Con.	997
West Queen's, P. E. I.—	2,528
Davies, Lib.	1,793
Stewart, Con.	733
Guysboro, N. S.—	1,926
Fraser, Lib.	1,589
Gregory, Con.	337

It will be seen that all the seats were held by Liberals, excepting the two Ontario constituencies. In East Lambton the late Mr. Simmons got the bulk of his majority in the town of Petrolia, but this success, from all accounts, will not be duplicated by Mr. Armstrong. The Liberals have a good chance of winning East Bruce. The late Mr. Cargill, the strongest candidate the Conservatives could put up, had only 43 majority. The riding gave Prux, Liberal, 114 majority in 1891, but was captured by Mr. Cargill in 1896.

If this keeps up, Russia's navy will be good for nothing but the junk business. Russia thinks the Japs are no gentlemen to call at Port Arthur in the middle of the night.

The Toronto police suspect the existence of a highbrow society in the Chinese colony of that city. Perhaps it is a new plot to murder Ganey.

Russia has been aiming for years to get an ice-free harbor on the Pacific; but she can probably thank the ice for saving her squadron at Vladivostok.

"The Guysboro giant," D. C. Fraser, M. P., has been appointed to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia. Mr. Fraser is a big man in brain and body, and Liberalism loses one of its stalwarts by his translation. He will certainly add weight to the bench.

The Westminster Gazette sees something humorous in the action of the Manitoba Legislature in passing a pro-Chamberlain resolution and voting down a motion in favor of reducing the duties on British goods. What does it think of the Conservative leaders at Ottawa, who profess to be Chamberlain's disciples, and advocate shutting British factory products out of the country?

The Toronto News is mistaken in saying The Advertiser recommends a civic grant of \$50,000 to the Western University. In the present state of the city's debenture debt, this would not be practicable. But the claims of the university should appeal to citizens, especially to the wealthy men of the community. The present arts department can be made a force in the educational life of the Province if it is given a good start.

In Leicester, England, the other day, 150 passive resisters, including the mayor and several aldermen, town councillors, and industrialists, were

rates, as a protest against the new education act. The magistrates issued an order to the resisters to sell sufficient of their household property to pay the rates. These scenes are being enacted day after day in hundreds of British municipalities. There must be some injustice when law-abiding British people are going to such extremes.

CONDITIONED.
[Yonkers Statesman.]
Church—Did you say your boy is still pursuing his studies at college? Gotham—Yes, he hasn't caught up with them yet.

SELF-MADE MAN IN ENGLAND.
[St. James' Gazette.]
We hear so much of American captains of industry of John D. Rockefeller, the farm laborer's son; of Edison, the newspaper boy; of Yerkes, the youthful soap jobber, that we are apt to forget British giants of perseverance. Livingston worked as a factory hand until 25; the man who sought and found him in the wilds was born in a workhouse. The great firm of W. H. Smith & Sons was begun by two brothers so poor that the wife of one had to go into domestic service. The notes of Tangye began in a little workshop; that of Lever Brothers had a scarcely more pretentious start at Bolton. A coffee stall on a London curb was the first step to success. Though the years have passed his equal has never been found, and with it thousands of weak men have brought about the cure so much longed for. The doctor willingly sends the formula entirely free to any man who writes him for it, and they will find it a gift of lasting value. It is good for sexual weakness, lost manhood, nervousness, weak back, emulsions, varicose, lack of force, prostatic trouble, night sweats, inability and many other embarrassing conditions that beset the sexually imperfect man. It creates and immediately social feeling, warmth and good nature, forces active blood to the muscular tissue, tones the nervous system, and arouses bodily confidence. It makes the man of 65 as good as 35, and the young man again eager for society and fit for marriage and parenthood. Satisfactory results are produced in a day's use, and a perfect cure in a few weeks, regardless of age, or the cause of your condition.

If you need such a remedy send your name and address today to Dr. Knap Medical Company, 363 Hull building, Detroit, Mich., and in an unmarked box the doctor will at once send you the recipe, as promised, explaining in detail what ingredients to use and how to compound them so that any weak man can cure himself in his own home without being under obligations to anyone. If you do nothing, and the sooner you write the sooner you will be cured.

GAVE THEM A SCARE

Battery Blown Out During Performance in a New York Theater.
New York, Feb. 11.—There was much confusion and some alarm in the dress circle of the Metropolitan Opera House last night, when, during the second act of "Lucia," a sheet of flame and a cloud of smoke burst from an electric bell at one side of the main entrance to the circle. Mme. Sembrich and M. Campanari were on the stage at the time, and both looked startled. The members of the orchestra saw it too, and there was just an instant's pause. Several women rose from their seats and started to enter the aisles. In an instant ushers crowded down the aisles, assuring everybody there was not the slightest danger, and soon restored confidence. An usher said a "battery" had blown out.

TURNED OUT PARENTS

Windsor Man With a Bad Record Behind the Bars.
Windsor, Ont., Feb. 11.—After having served a term in jail for theft, been acquitted on a charge of highway robbery, and desertion from the United States army, George Aubrey, of Stony Point, is once more behind the bars, charged with having turned his aged parents out into the cold. He was remanded till Saturday. About four years ago Aubrey enlisted in the American army. He served three years in the Philippines and re-embarked after returning to the United States. Later he deserted and fled to his Canadian home, where his parents, both aged and infirm, were old, nursed him through a severe illness.

Talk About Cheap Gas?
Don't waste gas cooking meats. Dark's Ready-to-Serve specialties in this are delicious and perfectly cooked. W. Clark, Manufacturer, Montreal, 11-25

Hotel Rates Reduced.
Travelers and visitors to Toronto are pleased to hear that rates of the Queen's Hotel are now on hand from \$2.50 per day up to \$10.00 with bath from \$3.00 per day. The Queen's is convenient to the business section and trains, as well as quiet and homelike. 16 be ywt

THE FICKLE FAIR ONES.

[Lady Greville in London Graphic.]
Engagements are entered into far more lightly and broken far more easily than used to be the case, when a betrothal was as serious an affair as marriage. Now it is not unusual for a girl to be engaged once or twice before she is married, and people think none the worse of her. Young girls' ways are beginning to resemble those of nursemaids who walk out with their man, but not always with a view to matrimony.

EXPANSION OF NATIONS.

[Kansas City Star.]
Russia's struggle for Korea is another instance of the mania for bigness that seems to have taken possession of the whole world. Unless France can acquire a colonial empire, writes M. Leroy-Bauleu, it must be content to fall back among the third-rate nations. Germany's future, says the Kaiser, is upon the sea. If England cannot weld the colonies into a centralized empire, writes Mr. Chamberlain, the glory of the British name will have departed.

MODERATE PROTECTION

Mr. Fielding Gives a Hint as to the Tariff Policy.

Montreal, Que., Feb. 11.—Mr. Fielding, Minister of Finance, spoke at a meeting of the Liberals of Hochelaga at Westmount yesterday. Mr. Fielding's speech was principally directed to the finance question. He upheld the tariff of 1897, which he declared had proved of advantage to the country. It had been sufficient protection without giving too much. Mr. Fielding said that moderate protection was more to the interests of both the manufacturers and the farmers than high protection. Mr. Fielding said it was not the Government's intention to make any general revision of the tariff at the next session, but individual necessities would be attended to. He also expressed the hope that the Grand Trunk Pacific scheme would be agreed with the Grand Trunk, but

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