

PROVINCIAL HAPPENINGS

Alexander Gibson, sr., quietly observed his ninety-third birthday at his home in Marysville on August 1st. His friends and admirers will be glad to learn that he continues to enjoy excellent health.

At a meeting of the Graduate Nurses' Association held in St. John on Monday evening, it was decided to raise the fees from \$12 to \$15 a week for general nursing and contagious diseases, respectively to \$15 and \$18. The new schedule will go into effect after September 1.

The Stetson, Cutler Co. mill at Perth which is operated by the J. D. McLaughlin Co. and which saws about 20,000,000 feet of lumber a year, suffered a severe loss on Saturday last when spruce and cedar logs to the extent of 1,000,000 feet went adrift with the result that the mill was closed down.

After the meeting of the Jordan Memorial Sanatorium Commission on Friday Premier Fleming announced that the sanatorium would be ready for the reception of patients about October 1. Routine business took up most of the time of the meeting. Those present included besides the Premier, Mrs. Jordan, Hon. C. W. Robinson, Dr. McAvaney, Hon. D. V. Landry, Hon. A. R. McClean and Dr. T. W. send, the superintendent.

St. John Times—James Robinson, ex-M. P., the well known Northumberland lumberman, who is at the Royal, said today that the water in the Miramichi was at freshet height. There was, he said, about fifteen or twenty million feet of logs in the booms but at the present at least he did not anticipate any serious consequences. He had received a telephone message from his son to the effect that everything was all right and unless there was a very heavy rain fall coming the logs in the Miramichi would be all right.

The St. John police have been on the lookout for a young girl who ran away from her home in Prince Edward Island some days ago and of whom her friends have found no trace. It is believed that she came to that city and she is reported to have been seen there in company with a man who was going west on the harvest excursion, but the police have been unable to find her. Her father has since arrived in the city and will remain several days to see if he can find any trace of his daughter.

The house and barn of Edward and William Ogden in Sackville were struck by lightning during a heavy thunder storm Wednesday afternoon and almost wrecked. Edward Ogden and his wife and a child, two or three years of age, were in the sitting room when the bolt struck. The older people were standing in the bay window facing the street and the child was sitting on the floor a few feet away. Mr. Ogden says he remembers a crash and nothing more, until his brother Willard, who was in another part of the house at the time, tried to pick him up from the floor where he had fallen. He was badly stunned and for a time his legs seemed paralyzed. Mrs. Ogden was also stunned and fell against the wall.

The plant of the Mail Publishing Co., at Fredericton, was seized on Tuesday by Deputy Sheriff Timmins under a writ of execution issued as a result of the suit recently brought against the company by Mrs. Mabel Murchie wife of Mr. Tom Murchie of Fredericton. Mrs. Murchie's suit arose out of a tour contest which the defendant company put on some months ago and as a result she was awarded damages to the amount of \$175 and costs. Recently the defendant company applied for a stay of proceedings which the judge granted with the provision that the amount of damages and costs be paid into the court. This the defendant company failed to do and Deputy Sheriff Timmins made the seizure of the plant, the amount of the execution being \$439.55, and the plant is now being advertised for sale to satisfy the writ on Friday, August 23rd.

Word has been received by friends in Fredericton of the death under tragic circumstances of Otis Staples, of Wycliffe, B. C. With a party of friends including his brother, Mr. Staples went on a fishing trip to a lake about twelve miles from Wycliffe and had the misfortune to have a hook catch in his eye while he was casting his line. He was hurried back to Wycliffe by automobile and there the hook was removed from his eye. Mr. Staples was then taken to Spokane, Wash., where he underwent an operation in one of the hospitals and died upon the operating table. The late Mr. Staples was born in the Keswick district of York Co. sixty three years ago, and was forty-one years ago, first locating at Stillwater, Minn. where he eventually became highly successful and obtained large holdings in lumber and general business. Some years ago he acquired large interests in lumber lands and mills in British Columbia, and while in Fredericton last Christmas season enjoying a holiday he received and declined an offer from an English syndicate of \$1,000,000 for his Canadian holdings.

A Carleton County correspondent writes that a work train was dispatched to Bristol on Saturday to repair a washout caused by the heavy rain. The rain has continued sixty hours without abatement, and the water in the river has risen ten feet.

The vacancy in the Utilities Commission created by the resignation of Mr. O. M. Melanson has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Felix Michaud of Buctouche. Mr. Michaud, who will be the representative of the French Canadians, is 30 years of age, and lives at Buctouche.

The Maritime Oilfields, Limited, is erecting buildings and machinery on the farm of J. R. Taylor at Upper Dorchester for the purpose of boring for oil and gas. If gas is struck there it will probably be utilized in supplying Amherst, Sackville and other towns in that direction and save carrying pipes across the river.

Two Siamese kittens had a first class stateroom all to themselves on Holland to this country on the steamship Rotterdam, which docked at New York Monday. A deck steward and a dining room steward served the kittens their meals. They were brought over by Mrs. A. Barrelet de Ricou as a present to Miss Louise Grace daughter of New York's former mayor.

It is now understood that the amalgamation of the Grand Falls Power Co. and the Grand Falls Water and Boom Co. has been completed. American as well as Canadian capital is represented and it is said that development will begin as soon as plans are drawn up. These plans call for the construction of a large pulp and paper mill and a modern plant for the generation of electric power.

One of the heaviest rain and electrical storms that has visited St. John for some time occurred early Tuesday morning. The rain fell in torrents, and reports from different parts of the city and province are to the effect that great damage was done by the lightning. In several instances the lives of householders were endangered. Several houses in the North End as well as in the city proper, were badly damaged. Foley's pottery, on the Marsh Road, and the home of Rev. Canon Hoyt were struck. The rainfall was very heavy, amounting to 35 inches in seven minutes.

The Farm Settlement Board which will carry out the Ready Made Farm scheme of the Government has now been appointed. The Act passed by the legislature at the last session under which the new policy will be operated provides that the superintendent of immigration at St. John, Mr. Jas. Gilchrist, shall be a member and secretary of the board. The two other members named by the government are Mr. Thomas W. Butler of Milltown, Charlotte Co., and Mr. A. Willmot Hay of Woodstock.

The Campbellton Tribune understands that largely signed petitions from Bonaventure County and also numerous protests from Restigouche County, have been forwarded to Ottawa asking for the dismissal of Maxwell M. Mowat as a fishery officer, with powers throughout the Dominion. This appointment has undoubtedly created much dissatisfaction in the district, and it is indeed hard to find a resident who approves of the appointment, inasmuch as Mr. Mowat is the paid head guardian of the Restigouche Riparian Association and by virtue of his office cannot, it is said, be an unbiased government official as well. Every effort is being put forth by residents irrespective of politics to have him removed from office.

A very severe electric, rain, hail and wind storm passed over the North River district near Salisbury last week which is described as the worst storm ever witnessed at this time of the year, by the oldest residents of the district. Almost an inch of hail fell and the rain came down so rapidly that the doorways looked like brooks. The wind rocked the buildings like an earthquake, tore down fences and scattered the wood piles broadcast. The cattle and horses in the fields and barns were terrified and the people were greatly alarmed for fear that the buildings would not withstand the force of the storm. The force of the storm appeared to cover only a small area. While it was about at its worst within two miles of the village only a few drops of rain fell there. It was observed at the time, however, that the big storm was in progress to the north, which lasted for over an hour.

LOST IN THE WOODS

James Cunningham, a member of a picnic party that spent Sunday at Brandy Brook, a place seven miles from St. John, became lost in the woods during the afternoon, and was not found until the following morning.

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TAFT STANDS BY THE BIG TRUSTS

Vetoes Reduction of Tariff on Wool—Excuse is it would Injure Trade.

For the second time within a year, President Taft has vetoed a Bill to revise the wool tariff, schedule K. of the Payne—Aldrich Law.

With a message of disapproval, it returns to Congress. The Bill evolved a compromise between the House and Senate, holding that its low rates would bring disaster to home industries. He appealed to Congress, however, not to adjourn, until it had enacted a measure to substantially reduce unnecessary existing duties, with out destroying protection for the wool industry in the United States.

The President's disapproval of the Wool Bill, is to be followed with similar vetoes of the Steel Bill and the Cotton Bill. The Sugar Bill is likely to be vetoed as is the Excise Tax Bill, the latter probably on the ground that the President believes it unconstitutional. "I shall stand by my pledges to maintain a degree of protection necessary to offset the differences in cost of production here and abroad, and will heartily approve of any Bill reducing duties to this level," wrote Mr. Taft.

"Most of the rates in the submitted Bill," wrote the President, "are so low in themselves, that if enacted into law, the inevitable result would be irreparable injury to the wool growing industry, the enforced idleness of much of our wool combing and spinning machinery, and thousands of looms and the consequent throwing out of employment thousands of workmen. The Bill sent to the White House imposed an ad valorem duty of 28 per cent, on new wool and on cloths of 48 per cent. Both rates Mr. Taft held, were insufficient to protect the wool grower and the manufacturer.

DESPONDENT, WENT AND HUNG HIMSELF

Kings County Farmer, took His Life While Worrying Over Effect of Wet Weather on His Crops.

The dead body of Thomas Jebb, a former resident of Scotch Settlement Kings C., was found in the woods near his home on Saturday evening, hanging from a tree. The ghastly discovery was made by the dead man's brother-in-law, Septem Ford, with whom he had planned to work in the hay field on the day of the tragedy, if the weather had been fine. The bad weather of the early summer followed by still worse climatic conditions during the last few weeks had worried the unfortunate man considerably. His early crops were practically ruined, and he felt that it would be almost impossible to get in his hay. The constant brooding increased to despondency, it is said, and it is believed that he took his life while temporarily insane.

Mr. Jebb's hay had been cut for a few days and was still lying in the field wet, and wasting. On Friday he arranged with Mr. Ford, who lives on the next farm, that if Saturday was fine they would work together in the farmer's hay field. They were disappointed in the weather and Mr. Ford did not accompany his brother-in-law. The latter went off alone.

At noon he had not returned for dinner, and his anxious wife—he had been married only a few months—went to her brother's home, thinking her husband had gone there for his meal. But he was not to be found, so a search was at once commenced. About 6 o'clock in the evening, at the edge of the woods, near a place where a few days ago they had been making a bow for a heifer to keep her from jumping fences, Mr. Ford came upon the lifeless body. He secured assistance and carried the victim to his home.

The wife was stunned by the news and was in such a state that it was thought advisable not to allow her to see the body. Mr. Jebb came from Quebec in the spring, and after being married in St. John went to Scotch Settlement, which is about thirteen miles from Norton, to make his home. He was about sixty-five years of age. His wife is much younger.

FORESTER'S ORDER IN NEW BRUNSWICK

The financial statement of the High Court of the Independent Order of Foresters for New Brunswick shows that for the year ending June 30th, 1912, the receipts were \$2,162.66 and the expenditures \$1,917.03, leaving a surplus of \$245.63, compared with a surplus of \$263.84 a year before. The assets of the High Court exceeded its liabilities by the sum of \$116,227. There are 164 subordinate and 16 com panion courts of the order in New Brunswick.

EXECUTIONS BY WHOLESALE

Seven murderers were taken from their cells in Sing Sing prison on Tuesday morning and put to death in the electric chair. The number included six Italians and one negro, all of whom met their death quietly.

RECENT RAINFALL HAS DONE ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF DAMAGE

Causing the Rivers to Rise to Freshet Height and Large Area of Land is Flooded—Hay and Other Crops are Almost Destroyed and Much Lumber has Been Set Adrift.

The St. John Times says that from August 1 till about 7.30 o'clock Monday morning the total rainfall in the city has been 2.75 inches. Rain has fallen on almost every day since the first of the month and if the present storm continues the rainfall for the month of August will certainly be a record breaker. Most of the rain has fallen since Saturday, the total fall register being 1.4 inches. From one o'clock Monday morning until 7.30 o'clock rain fell incessantly and it was the heaviest rain so far this month.

Reports from the surrounding country and other parts of New Brunswick are to the effect that the rain is spoiling the hay and vegetable crop and that the farmers are suffering great losses on account of it.

Reports from Woodstock say that it is feared that the Meduxnakeag bridge will be carried away by a huge jam of over half a million logs that are pressing hard against the piers.

The constant rains have raised the river far beyond any previous freshet. Residents of Mill Street are moving out of their houses. The whole plant of the Imperial Packing Co. is down and the factory can only be reached by boats. Hay's saw mill is entirely surrounded by water. The main water pipe of the town system crosses under the bridge and will undoubtedly go out if the jam starts. This will cut off the water connection with the southern end of the town. On the north side a large barn owned by the Frauley Fertilizer Co. has been moved about three feet off its foundation. A large crew of men are working hard to prevent further damage but if the water continues rising there will be no chance of saving the bridge.

Hundreds of people are on the scene and much anxiety is felt by property owners. Much damage is reported from up river points and all crops and hay on the low lands will be destroyed.

The lumbermen will be heavy losers. Two big rafts of logs belonging to the Hayden Lumber Co. broke away Monday and the river is full of floating logs and lumber. The situation is serious.

Prayers for fine weather were offered in St. Mary's and St. Paul's churches, Chatham, on Sunday. The situation is becoming very serious for the farmer as out of the first eleven days of this month eight have been rainy. These conditions have prevented the big proportion of this year's hay crop from being housed and that portion which is cut is rotting more every day. It is feared that if dry weather does not soon come a large part of this year's crop will be rendered worthless. The official register for Chatham shows that 6.53 inches of rain fell in July of this year and 3.29 inches in August to date compared with 5.32 inches in July 1911, and .65 inches in August 1911. This means that a total of 3.85 inches more of rain fell this year from July first to the present time than in the same period of last year. Moreover, when it is considered that the mean temperature of July 1911 was 71 and of July 1912, 66, the fact that the farmers have found it hard to dry their hay is further emphasized.

At Marysville the Nashwaak river has almost reached spring freshet height and if the water rises much more the saw mills will have to be closed down. The sudden and unexpected raise of water in the Nashwaak carried a quantity of logs over the dam at Marysville, but they are all being caught at the rafting grounds established this season at the mouth of the Nashwaak and therefore the damage resulting is not of any great magnitude.

The flood carried away the boom established at 6-Miles Island near Grand Falls by the St. John River Log Driving Co., to hold over logs which were late in coming out until fall or until near spring. There were upwards of two million feet of logs in the boom and these logs are now coming down the river and will be coming down he river and will be handled at the Douglas and Mitchell booms here.

The Messrs. Aiken, contractors on the corporation drive between Grand Falls and the boom limits, thought they had finished work when they brought their clean-up drive to the boom limits the last of last week, but today they received orders than on account of the boom at 6-Miles Island breaking away and owing to the unusual raise of water they would have to resume driving again and they are starting work once more.

That no more than 25 per cent, of the hay crop of Carleton county is now in the barns and that the potato crop is at least two weeks late this year were two of the important statements made by Mr. B. Frank Smith, who is the leading dealer in farm produce in Carleton Co.

Mr. Smith, who was in Fredericton last week, said that last year he shipped the first car load of potatoes

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