

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1904.

## THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH.

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E. W. McDEADY, Editor.

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## Semi-Weekly Telegraph

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 12, 1904.

### GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC.

Gen. Man. Hays, who appreciates more than any of the British shareholders of the Grand Trunk Pacific the magnitude of the gift offered to them by the Canadian government, was able yesterday to secure their endorsement of the modified Grand Trunk Pacific contract.

The modifications were all in favor of the company, and call for much larger expenditure on the part of Canada than the \$130,000,000 which Hon. Mr. Blair believed the original contract involved. It provides for the construction of the main line of the road will be built, and the section to the lakes, and traffic will be brought down by the lake route and the Grand Trunk system to Portland. The government may build the eastern section, but there will be no hurry. What the Grand Trunk wants is the western connection and more business for its own summer connections and winter port.

Upon Parliament now rests a very grave responsibility. If the government is able to whip its supporters into line, and induce them to swallow this wretched business, it will commit the country to a scheme which is richly without justification or excuse. The result of such action would be a weakening of confidence in the government, and deep regret that the record of Liberal rule should be marred by a measure so unbusiness-like, involving the expenditure of millions upon millions for the benefit of a private corporation.

### SIGNS AND PORTENTS.

The Gazette last Tuesday published an article in justification of the previous day's attack on the Globe, and declared that it stated plain truths, which were "a pretty clear and emphatic statement of the very great injury which the Globe has done to the Liberal party in this city and province." Continuing, it says further—

"The Gazette merely expressed some plain truths which are well known to very many members of the Liberal party in this constituency, who, while deploring the conduct of the Globe, have felt that it would be better for the party leaders to overlook it in the hope that time would heal the sores which have not been entirely cured by the Liberal party to consider its position to those who control the policy of our evening contemporary, and that if left alone it would gradually fall into line and become again a warm and loyal supporter of the Liberal party. The expectations of those who so hoped have not been realized. Unless the Globe can control the destinies of the Liberal party in this constituency and dispense the party patronage, its managers have made up their minds to ruin the party. The question for the Liberal party is to consider whether it will tolerate any newspaper or any set of men taking this attitude. Not much more than a year ago, we were told that the Liberal party was not to be a party in this constituency, notwithstanding the utmost efforts which the Globe was able to put forth in assisting the Tories, carried all the while by a triumphant victory. On the 19th of last month, under circumstances which should ordinarily have been much more favorable to success, with the Globe constantly in favor of the Liberal candidate he is defeated by a considerable majority."

All this indicates that with courage, proper management, and a determination that the voice of the majority in the party, not that of the minority, shall prevail, the Liberal party may reasonably look forward to success in this constituency when the next trial of strength comes round.

According to the Gazette, therefore, the Globe must change its course or be repudiated by the Liberal party, or by "very many members of the Liberal party." By the Globe as meant Senator Ellis and Mr. Richard O'Brien. They are charged with having made up their minds to control the party and the patronage, or ruin the party. This is a serious charge, and made thus publicly is not likely to be helpful in healing the breach in the ranks. The Telegraph will of course feel a degree of sympathy with the Globe, inasmuch as current rumor says that this journal, too, is marked for destruction, by persons unknown, but claiming to be leaders in the Liberal party.

These be days of signs and portents. What the outcome may be no man can tell, but it does appear that somebody high in the councils of the Liberal party of Canada is rather ill-advised.

### COMPULSORY ARBITRATION.

The arbitration committee of the board of trade have agreed upon a bill based on the New Zealand Arbitration Act, altered to meet conditions here, and have prepared a synopsis of it for consideration. It will first have to be discussed by the council of the board and then by the full board, and a considerable time is

likely to elapse before any decision is reached.

The bill provides for compulsory arbitration between unions of employers and unions of employees. It will therefore have a tendency to encourage unionism, although, since the unions must register and be liable to all the provisions of the act there may be some objection to the bill from union sources.

The bill will not apply to the case, for example, of an employer and non-union employee, who may go out on strike. The chief purpose of the bill would appear to be to prevent strikes, and in the case of an arbitration work goes on as usual, and both parties must abide by the provisions of the court.

It is proposed to have one court of arbitration for the province, to consist of three members, appointed by the governor-in-council. One is to be a judge of the Supreme Court, who shall preside. The others are to be appointed one each on the recommendation of the employers' union and the employees' union. The court has large powers.

As the mere synopsis of the bill fills nearly four columns of a newspaper, no summary can do it full justice, but the question will of course be fully discussed before any action toward the enactment of the bill is taken.

### BEEF SUGAR INDUSTRY.

The government of Ontario is asked to come to the rescue of the beef sugar industry. Its condition is thus stated by the Toronto Star, which is a Liberal paper, and which favors further protection for the industry, in the form of continued bounties:

The beef sugar industry in Ontario is at a critical stage. Four factories have been erected during the past two or three years—at Watford, Dresden, Berlin and Wellandburg. Two millions of dollars have been put into them, most of the money having come from Michigan, where the industry is an extensive one. The factory at Watford has failed; the one at Dresden is not in operation; only two of the four are continuing the effort to establish themselves, and even these declare that they must give up the fight unless the Ontario government come to their assistance. At the inception of these factories the legislature passed an act giving them a bounty for three years of half a cent a pound for the first and second years, and a quarter of a cent for the third year. The first year the bounties amounted to \$75,000; the second year to \$71,000. This coming year, at the one-quarter cent rate, will see the amount cut in half. After that, unless the bounty is extended for another term, we are promised complete collapse, the loss of a large amount of capital, and the disappointment of hopes for a new source of prosperity for our farmers.

It is pointed out that there has been great difficulty in getting a supply of beets, one factory with a capacity of 75,000 tons only receiving 20,000 tons last year. The supply is increasing, but it is not rapidly enough, although it is said to be very profitable to the farmers. One farmer last year planted 91 acres, and raised 189 tons of beets, for which he got, after deducting cost of freight and seed, the sum of \$822.86. And the beet pulp from the factory is good fodder, making the factory an auxiliary to the dairy industry.

The Star says that eastern refineries are doing all they can to injure the Ontario industry. This is the charge it makes:

The sugar refineries in Montreal and the Maritime Provinces have naturally given all the trouble and opposition possible. Their purpose is plain. They are importing something like \$7,000,000 worth of beet sugar from Germany annually to use it for the Canadian market. This business will be taken from them and their doors closed if Ontario farmers and factories succeed in supplying Canada with sugar. Sugar factories are themselves refineries, making the sugar and refining all in one process. Of this process the refining is the lesser part. The old refineries only put \$5 worth of labor upon a ton of imported German sugar, whereas factories such as those at Wellandburg and Berlin are instrumental in putting \$70 worth of Canadian labor upon each ton.

In view of the vigorous advocacy of journals supporting the government it may be assumed that some assistance will be granted to the industry.

### DUTY OF PARLIAMENT.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company has put up the five million dollars deposit, and is now ready to avail itself of the opportunity to get a lot of new railway built for it at the expense of the Canadian taxpayers. The government will of course use every effort to force the necessary measure through parliament. The views of the people concerning the project are evidently not considered worthy of much attention, or the modifications of the original contract would have been published and the government would have gone to the country on the issue, instead of postponing the elections until after an effort had been made to force the new contract through parliament. Since elections "are not won with prayers," the adoption of the scheme would no doubt aid to solve one of the problems of a general contest.

It may still be hoped, however, that parliament will prove less tractable and more patriotic than at the last session. There was difficulty then in reconciling many Liberals to a scheme involving such an enormous expenditure and so much guesswork, and the present proposition is far more objectionable.

The members from the east may well look askance at a project which in its present form will enable the Grand Trunk to increase its Canadian trade through the port of Portland, Maine. The connection from the west to North Bay and the Grand Trunk system will be rushed, for that is the portion the Grand Trunk desired a charter to build. The government of Canada is now kindly offering to assist the company in that enterprise.

Some papers still profess to believe that

a hard bargain has been made with the Grand Trunk. If that be so, how was it that General Manager Hays told the Grand Trunk shareholders that if they did not undertake the work other companies would? Is the country overflowing with companies eager to make bargains to their own injury? The suggestion is absurd.

Once more let it be said that the bargain with the Grand Trunk Pacific Company is worse now than it was when Mr. Blair declared that it was "an unjustifiable waste of public money, without one redeeming feature."

Why is it necessary to rush this measure through without an appeal to the people? The government evidently intended to dissolve parliament last fall. But about that time the Grand Trunk asked for more, and endeavor to rush a bill through the house without an appeal to the people? Who has asked for this measure? Who is it that cannot wait? What great interests are suffering so much that a contract must be rushed through to build a railway through a region that has not been surveyed?

These questions were asked last year. They are now asked again, and with far more force than before, inasmuch as the present scheme is far worse for the country than the original one. A serious responsibility rests upon the members of parliament, and especially those from these provinces. They must not permit themselves to be deluded by smooth talk about the eastern section and the benefits to be derived. The Grand Trunk is in the saddle, and we know from past experience what that means, so far as maritime province ports are concerned.

### AN AMERICAN PASTIME.

The following account of what the 1,800 persons who participated regarded as the most enjoyable affair comes from the city of Springfield (Ohio), which has about 38,000 inhabitants:

"When a dozen men seized the body of the negro and with a triumphant cheer the mob marched to Fountain avenue and Main street, where it halted, and a rope was tied around Dixon's neck. The men climbed the pole and threw the rope over the topmost cross-tie and drew the rope over about eighteen feet above the street. The fusillade then began, and for thirty minutes the body was kept away back and forth from the force of the rain of bullets which was poured in on it. Frequently the arms would fly up convulsively when a muscle was struck, and the mob went fairly wild with delight. Throughout it all perfect good order was maintained and every one seemed in the best of humor, joking with his nearest neighbor while reloading his revolver."

The negro whose body thus furnished sport for the crowd undoubtedly deserved death, for he had shot a policeman and sought to arrest the police. The law would have dealt with him in due time, but he was a negro and the crowd needed an agreeable pastime. No they broke into the jail, shot him, and made a target of his body for half an hour. We are told that they cheered, joked with each other, and went wild with delight.

This event did not occur in China, or Tibet, or Siam, or Macedonia, or Serbia, or even in an obscure locality in the southern states; but in the city of Springfield, in the state of Ohio, the state that has given to the union five presidents, including Grant, Garfield and McKinley.

There is little wonder that Booker T. Washington appeals in behalf of the law, and that the New York Herald calls for the suppression of mob violence with an iron hand.

Unquestionably the lax enforcement of law in the United States has been responsible for much of this lawlessness. For years it has been notorious that criminals, by securing trial after trial, have either gone free or escaped with a light sentence. Justice, in numberless cases of revolting crime, has been neither swift nor sure. As a result there has been a resort to lynching law, and a gradual hardening of the public conscience, to the point where such scenes as that just described are witnessed without emotion, or even with approval.

"It has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 9th instand. In my estimation, a movement, such as you suggest, would not meet with any favor in Canada, and, personally, I would be opposed to it. You are aware that the Liberal party, some few years ago, carried on a campaign in favor of a policy of unrestricted reciprocity between Canada and the United States. Sir Wilfrid declared himself opposed to such a measure. He said:

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### SENATOR MITCHELL.

The Montreal Gazette, Conservative, says the following tribute to one of the new senators:

Although Hon. Wm. Mitchell will represent a rural senatorial division he is as well known in Montreal as in his own home in Drummondville, and although the new senator has been a strong party man he has no personal enemies in the Conservative party. He was born in Liverpool (P. Q.), educated in that district, and from small beginnings became one of the most prominent business men of the Eastern Townships. While a young man Mr. Mitchell organized the Drummond Lumber Company, of which he was manager, and whether at the head of that concern, or as a capable and broad-minded man of affairs, he held for ten years, the newly appointed senator has always been looked upon as a capable and broad-minded man of affairs. The high esteem in which he is held by his French-Canadian fellow-citizens is exemplified by the fact that he has year after year been selected as the chief magistrate of an almost exclusively French community, and when he retired not long ago it was absolutely against the wishes of his fellow-townsmen. Senator Mitchell was the builder of the Drummond County Railway from Ste. Rose to Chaudiere, with a branch to Nicolet, and he was also a member of the company up to the time of its sale to the Canadian government. He has been a Liberal in politics all his life, and gave his first vote in a federal contest to the present prime minister of Canada when he was defeated in Drummond and Arthabaska upon ac-

ceptance of office in the Mackenzie cabinet. Mr. Wilfrid Laurier was legal adviser. Mr. Mitchell was Arthabaska member of the House of Commons, and now it is Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Senator Mitchell. The new member of the upper house is the head of a number of companies both here and elsewhere, amongst others being president of the Cumberland Coal and Railway Company of Nova Scotia.

### ALL UP WITH JAPAN.

Not since the termination of the Boer war has the Clan-na-Gael in the United States enjoyed such an opportunity as is now afforded to pass resolutions. It is not surprising, therefore, to learn that about 150 members when in Newville (Mass.), last Sunday, and taking the eastern war as a text, adopted the following fierce declaration:

"That, as American citizens, recognizing in England our political and commercial enemy, a foe to freedom the world over, the worst kind of a foe to human progress, a stock race, poisoning literature and the press to bolster up her reputation and effect her own personal aggrandizement—a nation pretending to sympathize with the oppressed, while she is actually engaged in a scheme which with unutterable baseness staked us in the back when we were struggling to preserve the union, and is now endeavoring to compromise us in arbitration treaties and alliances to 'pull her political chestnuts out of the fire' in eastern Asia;

We most solemnly and emphatically protest against any action on the part of this country to compromise us with England; and we demand that the government, in remembrance of Russian sympathy and assistance in 1776, 1812 and 1861, and in appreciation thereof and return thereof we tender our sympathy and we pledge to Russia any assistance it may be within our right and power to confer.

We consider that the obvious league between England and Japan alienates all sympathy of an American for the latter country and believe that Russia is laboring to sustain the cause of justice and right.

The devoted Japs may now turn their faces to the wall. Kruger, it is true, did not win, though supported by hydraic resolutions of the same explosive power, but when professed lovers of liberty in Massachusetts came to the rescue of the most tyrannical government in Europe, and fulminate in so terrible a fashion, something surely ought to happen right away.

### STILL AFTER THE GLOBE.

The work of reading the Globe out of the Liberal party, in order that the party may be united, goes on apace.

The St. John Gazette began the campaign with two fierce articles, which have already been quoted. In another part of today's Telegraph appears an article from the Fredericton Herald, heartily supporting the Gazette. And now comes the Miramichi Advance, with an article over a column in length from which we quote the following:

"Appeals have been made of late to old Liberals, whose ideas of political respect had prompted them to get out of such company, to 'let bygones be bygones' and return to the old fold. The Globe was at first the leader in taking kind of soft soap to win it was endeavoring a few weeks ago to win support for a candidate of its own nominating in St. John, although its tinkering outfit—soldier and all—went into the scrap heap as soon as the nomination went to another. Now it is working, with all its old-time cunning and poorly disguised malice towards those with whom it professed alliance in the late St. John election, to strengthen the Conservatives in that constituency. A newspaper's party allegiance which can be held only as long as the interests of those managing it are served by the party, or it is permitted to dictate who shall be recognized by or share in the party councils, is not only a source of weakness, but a menace."

"Rule or ruin," says the Gazette, "cunning and malice," says the Advance. Surely times have changed. In the old days, to be a genuine Liberal was to wear the Globe stamp, so to speak. But under the new regime the man caught with a copy of the Globe on his person will be open to grave suspicion.

Query—How long will it take the Gazette, Herald and Advance "soldier" to cement the Liberal party?

### SIR WILFRID SPEAKS.

In an article on American Commercial Union, in the North American Review, the author quotes a letter he received from Sir Wilfrid Laurier in October last, on the question of unrestricted reciprocity between Canada and the United States. Sir Wilfrid declared himself opposed to such a measure. He said:

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ing to make an impression at that quarter, we directed our efforts elsewhere and I am glad to say that they have been successful. Mr. Mitchell was Arthabaska member of the House of Commons, and now it is Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Senator Mitchell. The new member of the upper house is the head of a number of companies both here and elsewhere, amongst others being president of the Cumberland Coal and Railway Company of Nova Scotia.

### THE TRADE ARGUMENT.

A writer in the New York Post objects to the repeated statement that Russian trade is of more value to the United States than is the trade of Japan. He quotes the following from the World Almanac of 1904 to emphasize his remarks:

"The value of our exports to, and imports from, each country for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903, was as follows:—

	Exports to U. S.	Imports from U. S.
Russia.....	\$18,529,062	\$4,328,062
Japan.....	\$2,924,882	\$4,142,062

In other words, the entire volume of our transactions with Japan amounted to \$65,164,244, while with Russia it was only \$22,133,068.

Pointing out that American sympathy for Japan is based on "justice and right, and a hatred of treachery and oppression," he clinches his argument with the above statement, and adds this significant query:—

If this be the situation at present, whence comes it most likely to further our commercial prosperity in the future, that of the country which has been striving for the "closed door" against us, or that of the progressive little nation which is not only willing to afford to us the "open door" within her own domain, but is struggling to secure it for us, as well as for herself, in Korea and China?

That appears to be an argument which should appeal with considerable force to a nation which is constantly seeking new avenues of foreign trade.

### THE G. T. P. STOCK.

Under the new agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific the Grand Trunk is only required to hold a majority of the \$25,000,000 common stock—or, say \$13,000,000. As the case stands now they can present the other \$12,000,000 to promoters, who may be asked to help them finance the whole scheme. These promoters may afterwards sell the stock.

Whether they do or not, dividends will be paid on it, and this will come out of the people. Parliament should set a price on this common stock, so that it cannot be given away in any such fashion. As the Toronto News remarks, "It is intolerable that great blocks of common stock should be absorbed by interested capitalists without any consideration whatever, or at so small a consideration as to be inconsequential."

The dividends must come out of the traffic of the railway; or, in other words, out of the pockets of the people who are its patrons. They should not be asked to pay dividends on millions of dollars worth of stock that were issued at practically no cost to the original holders.

### POWER FROM NIAGARA.

The Electrical Development Company of Ontario hope to be able to transmit electric power from Niagara Falls to Toronto within eight or nine months. The works at Niagara are proceeding rapidly. It is proposed to transmit 60,000 horse power to Toronto. The company's manager says of the plans:—

"This power will be transmitted over the private right of way that has been acquired by the company. In place of wooden poles, galvanized steel towers will be used. The height from the ground to the lowest cross arm will be about 45 feet, and they will be 400 feet apart. There will be four circuits, so that in case of any accident to one of the circuits three others will always be available. The voltage on the line will be 60,000 volts. There will be a transformer house at Niagara Falls, at which the voltage will be stepped up, and another at Toronto, where it will be stepped down to the voltage commercially in use."

### NOTE AND COMMENT.

David Sears, of Boston, has presented Harvard University with \$250,000.

The town of Hull (Mass.) has voted \$500 toward the proper observance of Old Home Week.

The fate of the Grand Trunk Pacific deal now rests with parliament, which should reject it, and insist on the extension of the Intercolonial to the lakes.

Both wheat and flour have declined in the American market. For the present at least the boom has spent itself.

The condition of the sidewalks and crossings in this city is unnecessarily bad. The street department should exert itself with more vigor.

American consuls are on their way to Antung and Mukden, in Manchuria, but will probably remain at Shanghai awaiting the developments of the war.

It is said that a French-Canadian officer may be chosen as commandant of the next Boley team. The name of Lieut.-Colonel McKay of the 65th Battalion is one of those mentioned.

Subscriptions to the Japanese war loan now amount to \$38,500,000. That country is in a better financial position to stand the strain of war than was generally believed.

A statement from the Waterloo Advertiser may not be true of the Liberal party in Sheffield, but it may be more or less applicable in St. John. The Advertiser, according to the Montreal Gazette, claims

St. John, N. B., March 12, 1904

## EASTER SUITS.

Our New Spring Stock of Men's and Boys' Suits have almost all arrived, and they are the best, the patterns, makes and styles, and a great improvement on anything we have yet shown. We have a large stock and twice the stock of one year ago, the Prices as usual are marked very low.

Men's Suits Prices	\$4.00 to 15.00
Boys' 3 Piece Suits	2.50 to 6.00
Boys' 2 Piece Suits	1.10 to 5.00

'Twill be to your interest to see our Stock.

J. N. HARVEY, Men's and Boys' Clothier,  
199 and 201 Union Street.

## Neverslip Calks

are steel-centered, self-sharpening calks which can be easily inserted or removed from the shoe on the horse's hoof and keep him "always ready" and safe from falls in slippery weather. They save your horses and save your money. If you're not using them, give them a trial this fall and winter. Your shoe will sell you a set or we will send you a descriptive pamphlet on application.

NEVERSLIP MANUFACTURING CO., New Brunswick, N. J.

Agents, W. H. THORNE & CO., LIMITED,  
Market Square, St. John, N. B.

that perfect harmony exists in the Liberal party in Sheffield, but that there are certain objectionable members who refuse to do what the rest desire.

The Albert county winter port is already in process of development. The Herring Cove Railway Company is seeking incorporation. St. John and Halifax must look to their laurels.

Are we to have another Aroostook war over an island in the St. John river? The statement of Hon. Dr. Pugsley shows that provincial rights are threatened in that direction.

The Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto Globe says that the session of parliament may be a long and acrimonious one, and that it may be the middle of July before prorogation.

Since that famous telegram from Mr. Hays on the eve of the by-election here, the Grand Trunk has not manifested much interest in the question of shipping facilities at the port of St. John. What has happened?

Mormon Apostle Merrill has eight wives and forty-five children. Apostle Tensdale has seven wives, and married two sisters at one ceremony. Eight Mormon leaders have thirty-three wives in all. Nice people, these Mormons.

Says the Boston Globe: "Sir Thomas Lipton, after a few years of vigorous but unprofitable competition, has sold his Chicago packing plant to the Swift Packing Company, and the famous yachtsman finds again that the race is to the Swift."

An Ottawa despatch says: "The Mexican government, through Sir William Lockhart, has expressed a willingness to bear one-half the cost of instituting a steamship service between Mexico and Canada. It is believed the Canadian government will reciprocate, and that before long steps will be taken to inaugurate a service."

The Toronto Star says: "Although suffering from the influenza, General Pling informs the War that his Cossacks have forced a Japanese patrol to retreat to Pingtung, which has been fortified, and now contains fifteen thousand Japanese soldiers. The Cossacks were pined on. Heavy snowfalls at Port Arthur and ten degrees of frost at Vladivostok."

The session of parliament which begins tomorrow will be a very important one, despite the fact that there is not a large government programme. The latter will include the Grand Trunk Pacific scheme, Sir Frederick Borden's bill to amend the militia act, Hon. Mr. Prefontaine's naval reserve bill, and possibly a federal Sunday observance bill. There will be, as usual, a host of private bills.

The number of suicides in Berlin is alarmingly on the increase. In 1900 the number was 434; in 1901 it was 525; in 1902, 564, and in 1903, 601. Whereas the population in this time has increased only three and a half per cent, the rate of increase in suicides is thirty-eight per cent. In 1900 there were twenty-three suicides to every 100,000 of population. In 1903 the number was thirty-one.

Hon. Messrs. Prefontaine and Brodeur were black-balled by the Rideau Club at Ottawa, and Hon. Mr. Sutherland had a narrow escape. Hon. Mr. Lemieux withdrew his application. There has been considerable discussion of the affair in the upper province papers. It was a very small business, and the gentlemen who were barred out will have more sympathy than those who vented their spleen in so scurrily a fashion.

James A. Smart, deputy minister of the interior, who has just returned to London from a visit to the continent, is enthusiastic over the prospects of a very largely increased number of continental emigrants to Canada this year. They will be of a superior class. The mayor of one town is sending four of his sons. Mr. Smart was greeted with the greatest courtesy

and attention, and personally interviewed members of the governments of the different countries he visited.

Four Guitars, who wanted inspiration, appropriated some liquor left on a railway platform in Gloucester county. It cost these Guitars—Francis, Philomena, Norman and Lawrence—twenty dollars each to pay the bill.

La Patrie says: "The new contract between the Grand Trunk Pacific and the government allows the Grand Trunk to rent a portion of the line between Winnipeg and Quebec. This means that when the government builds the section from the top of Lake Superior to North Bay the Grand Trunk Pacific will use the section for the ends of the Grand Trunk."

The New York Journal of Commerce states that Russia is seeking supplies of American salmon for her army. In this as in some other matters she appears to be behind Japan, which is said to have bought 100,000 cases some time ago