

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 11, 1903.

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Semi-Weekly Telegraph

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 11, 1903.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

The chances are that if one could get a snap shot of each individual member of the city council early this morning the pictures would reveal every one of the fathers in the act of reading a newspaper containing the remarks made about them yesterday by Mr. W. M. Jarvis, president of the Board of Trade. And what Mr. Jarvis said is "mighty interesting reading," not only for the aldermen whom he rapped so smartly over the knuckles, but for the taxpayers who elect these aldermen to transact the city's business.

Mr. Jarvis did not condemn all the aldermen, and The Telegraph in discussing his remarks, is free to admit that we have some good men in the council. Frankness compels the assertion that these good men are a minority, and honesty the further assertion that the motives leading to the choice of the majority as civic representatives are beyond the ordinary comprehension. When Mr. Jarvis says some of the aldermen are useless and a few of them worse than useless, and he does say that in substance—the inquiring citizen who is open to conviction will find plenty of evidence to support the indictment.

With few exceptions, the president of the Board of Trade says, the aldermen accept annual passes from the St. John Street Railway Company. The principle is bad. This would be more serious if there were now existing between the council and the street railway some question of greater public moment than there is. The pass, let us say, bribe no one. But it is the thin edge of a bribery wedge in principle. The pass is a sedative, whereas the alderman who looks sharply after the city's interests needs no sedative but rather a medicine producing an access of energy. The charter of the street railway company gives them pretty nearly everything in sight, but the aldermen should be chary of accepting any favor making for civic inaction, because vigilance is requisite if the city is to even make the best of its bad bargain.

Mr. Jarvis suggests that men who have a high sense of public duty should become candidates for aldermen. It is a good idea and the more suggestion, coupled with his criticisms of the council—criticisms inspired by the most unselfish motives—is a public service not to be lightly valued. But The Telegraph doubts if the shot will prove of telling effect, so deadly dull is the ordinary citizen's interest in the conduct of the city's business. The outlook now is that the present aldermen will be re-elected if they care to serve again, and all of them seem anxious to succeed themselves. We do not say there should be a contest in every ward, but it is a fact that in most wards there should be, and it would be a most beautiful sign if there were sharp contests in most cases. Even if new and better blood were not injected into the anæmic council as a result, the danger of future defeat would cause some of the present aldermen to attempt an intelligent study of civic affairs and of the principles of civic government.

If what Mr. Jarvis said Tuesday—and we urge every taxpayer to read his remarks thoughtfully—does not result in enlivening the coming civic election, we shall at least hope that he has planted good seed which will bear fruit later on and that a large number of the aldermen who study the timely criticisms may walk more intelligently and more unselfishly hereafter.

After all the taxpayers are the chief winners. They have created the situation of which Mr. Jarvis complains.

BY ACCLAMATION.

That Solicitor-General McKeown would be elected by acclamation was to have been expected in view of the great Liberal victory on February 28 last and his own great personal triumph. It is the more wonderful therefore that even certain irreconcilables should put forward the suggestion that no opposition appeared because Mr. McKeown had made certain promises to their liking. Nothing could be farther from the truth.

Mr. McKeown was not opposed because the people would have resented any Tory attempt to oppose him and would have rebuked the Tory machine had it been ostensible enough to have undertaken to put

up a candidate against him. The Conservative machine, lately so soundly whipped in this constituency, knew that another fight would have been utterly hopeless and that it would have worked permanent injury to the opposition cause—which is already in a very sorry condition. The Solicitor-General owes nothing to the generosity of his political enemies. That is not conspicuous among his ruling qualities. Had they seen the slightest hope of defeating him after his acceptance of office, the members of the Tory clique would have attempted it, but they knew well that the people of the city would not have it.

As for the election law, the debate in the house shows where the government and its supporters stand in regard to that matter, and even the St. John Sun cannot really and honestly convince itself that the administration is opposed to any intelligent effort to better present conditions if a practical, common-sense plan to do so is available.

STOCKS.

The recent drop in Dominion Steel has more people in the lower provinces than is generally supposed. From Winnipeg east, as it now appears, small investors attempted to make money by buying these stocks, expecting a rise. Most of these buyers expected an abnormal rise. All were seeking something for nothing.

It is a fact that the recent slump of the Dominion stocks meant a loss to small investors of more than \$200,000. Many of these men, thus bitten, would resent the statement that they had better play faro or roulette than the stock market. Providing the game be fair and the player be intelligent an investment at the gaming table is more likely to prove a winner than a purchase of speculative stocks on a margin. In gambling it is understood from the outset that the player stands to lose. The percentage is "in favor of the house." The player may win occasionally, but most of those who play at the same time, or during the same week, lose extensively and so "the house" pays its rent and enables the owner to go to Europe and lose part of his gains at Monte Carlo.

The chances that the ordinary citizen buying stocks on a margin will lose are increased greatly because of the fact that he is an absolute outsider. He is one of many who are footing the bills. He is paying for steam yachts and palaces which he never uses and of which he frequently reads. These yachts and palaces are paid for by the money he and others like him contribute to the men who control the market.

Today a man may be impressed with the idea that a certain stock is going up and he may buy. At the same moment the men controlling that stock may depress its price for purposes of their own, and the small investor loses. It really is worse than roulette. Sometimes the proprietor of a gaming establishment is not satisfied with his receipts and installs a roulette wheel which may so be controlled that the percentage against the game is increased immensely. That game is known to the man in the street as "bruce." The man who speculates in stocks is in the position of this fellow who risks his dollars in a gambling house where the game is "bruce."

There is no honest way of getting money except by earning it. The stock market is a roulette with a "bruce" wheel. This fact is now a matter of bitter knowledge to the men in the Maritime Provinces who "took a flyer in Dominion Steel."

A QUESTION FOR THE SUPREME COURT.

Hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick, the Minister of Justice, having considered the memorial of the New Brunswick government asking that our representation in the parliament of Canada be not decreased, is of the opinion that the position taken by this province is not tenable. He holds that to say that only the four original provinces of the Dominion were considered in the British North America Act would be unnatural.

It is a question for the Supreme Court. The Redistribution bill will pass, but our provincial ministers have raised certain law points which must be passed upon by the highest legal tribunal, notwithstanding any conclusion the Minister of Justice may have arrived at. It is to be remembered that very able lawyers regard the position taken by Premier Tweedie and Attorney-General Pugsley as a sound one, and it is to be hoped that the Supreme Court will uphold the New Brunswick ministers.

THE DOOM OF THE GERRYMANDER.

Mr. J. S. Willison, who formerly was chief editorial writer of the Toronto Globe, and who now is directing the Toronto News, writes as follows:—

The terms of the Redistribution Bill are particularly satisfactory. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had every opportunity, every temptation and perhaps some measure of excuse to play a partisan game. He has chosen to play fair. The decision of the Dominion government is the most creditable action which Canadian politics have seen for a long time. It is to be earnestly hoped that it will prove an effective action. It is to be hoped that it will kill the gerrymander in Dominion politics.

The gerrymander of 1882 must rank as one of the meanest episodes in Canadian political history. It is something of which every Canadian should be thoroughly ashamed. The worst thing about it was that the official heads of the Conservative party felt that they could afford to be open in breaking the rule of fair fighting and the principle of majority rule. The Conservative party supported them in their meaness. Sharp practice was openly

made a party creed, and a great party accepted the doctrine. The Redistribution Act of 1892 betrayed no disposition to give up the advantages gained by such unfairness ten years before. What is worse, the Conservative party has shown no satisfactory sign of penitence since then. In 1890 it fought bitterly against the remarkably fair measure introduced by the Liberals. Its journals have awaited the details of the present bill with undisguised trepidation. It is true, but also with the air of believing that the Conservative party has vested rights in the present scandalously unfair distribution.

The Liberal party has offered to play fair at every constituency. The Conservative press has refused to take advantage of that concession. Let us do what we may.

ANALYZING SIR WILFRID

What is it that makes Sir Wilfrid Laurier the great man he is? Mr. Pelham Edgar has attempted to answer that difficult question in the course of a long review of Mr. J. S. Willison's Life of the Premier. In reading this review we get Mr. Willison's idea of the statesman as Mr. Edgar sees it, together with the reviewer's own estimate of the chief Canadian. Mr. Edgar says in part:

Mr. Willison's concluding chapter is an efficient summary of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's intellectual and moral qualities. "Moderation," Mr. Willison holds, "is the keynote of all his career, and the secret of all his achievements." The term, as here employed, does not connote the moderation of timidity and compromise, but rather that moderation, which is the highest effect of courage, and opposes itself irresistibly to the onsets of popular passion. But to appreciate the secret of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's achievements we must add to this quality of moderation other qualities which the book has revealed, and which the concluding chapter enumerates. We must add his eloquence, his candor, his practical common-sense, and his effective grasp of salutory principle. We must realize that there is fused in his mind a potent compound of poetic idealism and temperate wisdom. And from all these qualities in combination there emanates that subtle and pervasive charm which searches the human heart and awakens the mind more profoundly than irresistible logic and crushing logical force that lacks the element of sympathy.

The reviewer adds that while Sir Wilfrid Laurier gives his lieutenants ample chance to display their constructive talents, he is always master in his own house.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Needed—A few aldermen, not the kind we have.

We now have a Solicitor-General. And it seems that no one was anxious to dispute the title.

The great harvest which Maine reaps from tourist travel will be reaped in time by New Brunswick. The thing to do is to take measures looking to an early harvest.

What will Macedonia do for funds unless Miss Ellen M. Stone, the missionary, returns there?—New York Commercial.

"Speaking of Ellen," is the dear lady really thinking of going back? Civilization might refuse to ransom her next time.

Mr. Jabal Robinson, M. P., estimates that every minute that Dominion Parliament is in session it costs the country \$28. If so, the prompt business-like methods of the Laurier government should long be continued.—Montreal Herald.

And, more than that, the outlook is that they will be long continued.

The Toronto World, in the course of a long article on "The Cause of Patronage," quotes:

O for a tongue to curse the slave,
Whose treason, like a deadly blight,
Comes o'er the counsels of the brave
To blast them in the hour of might.

The poetry is all right, but we wonder if lack of provincial or Dominion patronage influenced the editor in his selection.

Is the alderman who votes for a good man? Does he serve carefully the interests of the city? Does he do what you would do if you were in his place? These are questions you should ask yourself before election day. Ward influence is all very well. Personal considerations count, too. But the wise thing to do is to elect a good alderman. And "good" in this case means much.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's activity in the House stamps him as anything but a sick man. Tory ambitions nourished by the hope that he was in poor health that he would be forced to retire, must be at low ebb. The Conservative newspapers which started stories concerning the Premier's physical collapse and kept those stories going in the face of authoritative denials, have been very quiet of late.

The Sun is not pleased with Hon. Mr. McKeown's election by acclamation, but that result shows that the Tory organ does not always represent the better elements of its party.—Fredericton Herald.

The Sun simply barks at the government and anything which makes for government strength. It has no other policy. It objects to the election of Hon. Mr. McKeown because that election is further evidence of the fact that the Liberal party dominates this constituency.

Sir Gilbert Parker says of Mr. Chamberlain's South African tour: "He has set a precedent which no Colonial Secretary can afford to disregard hereafter. Whatever may happen to him in the future, he has done a great, lasting work that has made possible more intimate relations between the mother country and its scattered colonies. As far as South Africa is concerned, it is certain that he has lessened, if not entirely removed, serious obstacles to a quiet settlement, hence the rousing character of the reception accorded the returning statesman today."

General Miles, who was received by the

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King while in England, sent a wireless message to His Majesty from midcoast. When he reached New York, General Miles was handed the following reply: "I am commanded to thank you for your good wishes, and to say for His Majesty that it afforded him much gratification to receive you at Windsor, Knollys." This will lead a certain class of Americans to conclude that the general and the King are bosom friends. Sir Francis Knollys might tell another story if he gave his real opinion of all the persons whose messages he is forced to answer.

The screaming of the American Eagle so annoys the Toronto Telegram man that he sails for the bird of freedom in this fashion:—

An American publication prints the portraits of the world's great statesman and reduces R. Hon. A. J. Balfour, Premier of Great Britain, to one-fourth the size of Hon. John Hay, American Secretary of State. Even if John Hay had never entered himself to mankind by writing "Jim Blodgins" and "Little Breeches," he would still run high on his merits as a public man. But the difference in size between Mr. Hay's picture and Mr. Balfour's picture in the American magazine does not represent a corresponding difference between the ability of the two statesmen. And the description of Mr. Hay as "the most powerful diplomat on earth" butchers the truth to make a Roman holiday for United States vanity.

In view of the agitation in Great Britain over the danger to the country's food supply in case of war, and the great export of settlers to Canada, the following, from the New York Sun, is pertinent:—

According to the best agricultural authorities in England and Scotland, the cultivable land of the Kingdom, if tiller with the same intensity as the land of Holland, Belgium, France, or even Germany, could produce enough food to feed double its present population with ease. The fact is, however, that there are at the present moment more than twenty millions of acres of land susceptible of the highest cultivation lying idle in the United Kingdom or so completely as to yield the minimum of result; and in the cultivated area, the number of acres under food crops, properly so-called, has been steadily diminishing during the past thirty years.

At Sherry's, in New York, the other night, a millionaire horseman dined thirty-six guests, all of whom sat at horseshoe while partaking of the costly feast prepared for them. In a sermon which he preached on Sunday, Rev. Dr. Donald S. Mackay, of the Collegiate Church, in Fifth Avenue, denounced the luxury of the rich and said in part:

There can be no life of worthy thought where existence is longed for with the vulgarities of luxury. The two most illiterate classes in society today are the abject poor, who by necessity must think of the day for food, and the great masses of thinking of nothing else, and the idle rich, who by choice devote every hour of the day to the trivial problem of what they shall eat and what they shall drink and whereat they shall be clothed.

The St. John Sun says Laurier wants to get the credit for fairness without being fair. It is hard to please these old Tories. Some of them would grumble if it was left to Mr. Borden to settle the redistribution.—Montreal Herald.

The Herald should know that political reverses have made the Sun irresponsible.

Sir Gilbert Parker is trying vainly to protect Canadian interests in the British House of Commons. He asked Mr. Broderick Monday if Canadian beef was to be included in the army beef contracts. The Secretary of War said the matter had been considered and it was evident that to permit Canadian competition would be detrimental to the home producer. Mr. Broderick seems to share Mr. Hanbury's determination to keep down the great Canadian cow. Neither of these gentlemen thinks it detrimental to their constituents when the Canadian soldier goes out with Mr. Thomas Atkins against a common enemy.

TWENTY YEARS OF BRONCHITIS.

Captain Dunlop, of Kingston, commander of the steamer "Bismarck," of the R. & O. fleet, suffered unceasingly for twenty years, and although he was treated all that time by the best medical skill obtainable, he was unable to get any relief. He used **Starbreeze**, which cured him in a few days. **Starbreeze** is the best remedy for all forms of Bronchitis, Croup, Whooping Cough, and all the ailments of the throat, lungs and chest. It is pleasant to use, quick to relieve and sure to cure. **Starbreeze** is a wonderful treatment for all diseases of the Throat, Lungs and Bronchial Tubes. Two months' treatment, price \$1.00, small size 25 cts. Druggists or Polon & Co., Kingston, Ont.

Irish repartee is proverbial. A professional man addressed an artisan, who was waiting in his hall, rather brusquely:—"Hallo, you fellow, do you want me?" The answer was:—"No yer honor, I'm waiting for a gentleman."

PENNELL INQUEST TO BE THOROUGH.
District Attorney Will Probe the Private Affairs of Mrs. Burdick's Friend.

Buffalo, April 7.—District Attorney Coatsworth this afternoon made the following statement: "My policy on the Pennell inquest will be to bring to light every scintilla of evidence which will or may throw light on the murder of Edwin L. Burdick. The inquest will not be in reality to determine how Arthur R. Pennell came to his death. It is not of any great importance to know whether he committed suicide or not. But it is of the utmost importance to discover the murderer of E. L. Burdick."

District Attorney Coatsworth said this afternoon that he had known of the alleged swindling operations of Arthur R. Pennell for a week.

I was informed," he said in reply to a question, "that Pennell had been inducing his wife's family and friends in Wayne to allow him to 'invest' their money for them. I was also informed that he gave them alleged fake mortgages on property and kept up the interest payments in order to cover up the transactions."

He said Pennell's private affairs would be taken up at the inquest.

Buffalo, N. Y., April 8.—Justice Murphy and District Attorney Coatsworth held a conference this afternoon on the Pennell inquest, which begins at the Morgue Friday afternoon. The course of the public inquiry, so far as it could be discussed beforehand, was settled. The inquests of Pennell and Mrs. Pennell are to be joint. The last known statement of Pennell in his own defense, in which he says a woman killed Burdick at midnight, is to come out. The inquest will probably last two days.

It was intimated today that in the event that those interested in the Pennell estate from friends and relatives were to divulge any information as to Pennell's financial operations, an effort will be made to show that the money which he obtained from his friends and relatives was in the nature of legitimate loans. In other words it may be asserted that funds to the amount of about \$300,000 were advanced to him without any security whatever. His attorney, Wallace Thayer, admits that Pennell had no security to give for such loans, that he possessed no real estate and had no bonds or stocks or mortgages.

"Do you consider that he could borrow \$300,000 from friends and relatives without giving security far in excess in value of \$300,000," Mr. Thayer was asked.

"No, it is not likely, and that is one reason why I believe Pennell was a defaulter," was the reply.

Mr. Thayer says that he had not yet opened the sealed instructions left him by the dead man.

"Pennell left written orders that they should not be opened until the insurance money was paid in," said Mr. Thayer. "I therefore do not know what my secret instructions are."

CARLOS LUNCHE WITH KING EDWARD.

Their Majesties Make Speeches and Portugal's King Pledges Eternal Friendship.

Lisbon, April 7.—King Carlos dined on board the Victoria & Albert and afterward King Edward proposed the health of the King of Portugal. In his speech he expressed his thanks for the affectionate and cordial welcome extended to him and spoke in the warmest terms of the friendship existing between the two nations, "which shall continue to walk together in the paths of peace, progress and civilization for many centuries. The allied nations have been great colonizing powers. I think we have shown the world that our object is to establish an efficient government in all our possessions. My country has but one wish, to uphold the honor of the flag and maintain its colonies without encroaching on the possessions of others."

King Carlos replied with like warmth, saying that England could count on Por-

St. John, N. B., March 28, 1903.

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tuage being her true and loyal friend forever.

The British Royal yacht, accompanied by the British cruisers Minerva and Venus, left Lisbon for Gibraltar this evening.

MAINE STUDENT DISAPPEARS.
His Brother Wandered Away Three Years Ago and Has Not Been Heard of Since.

Dover, Me., April 7.—Much anxiety is felt here and at Charleston (Me.) for the safety of Frank Goodwin, aged 16 years, a student at the Higgins Classical Institute, who disappeared late yesterday afternoon. Ten students from the school came here today searching for him and other parties went to Bangor, Dexter and La Grange. It was at first thought he came here but no trace was found. Ralph Goodwin, a brother, disappeared from his home at Charleston three years ago and has not been seen since. Frank Goodwin wore a light mackintosh and cap and carried a small lunch box when last seen. It was thought his mind was temporarily deranged.

CANCER

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