

HOLLY—In this city, on May 31, Hon. James Holly, aged 76 years.

**The Semi-Weekly Telegraph**  
is issued every Wednesday and Saturday by The Telegraph Publishing Company, of St. John, a company incorporated by Act of the Legislature of New Brunswick.

E. W. McCRADY,  
President and Manager.

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**THE DAILY TELEGRAPH**  
THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH  
THE EVENING TIMES

New Brunswick's Independent  
newspapers.

These newspapers advocate  
British connection

Honesty in public life

Measures for the material  
progress and moral advancement  
of our great Dominion

No graft  
No deals!

The Thibic, Shamrock, Rose entwined,  
The Maple Leaf forever.

**Semi-Weekly Telegraph**  
and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 10, 1911

**A YOUNG NATION**

"We study and watch with care and admiration the spirit of emulation of their bold social experiments, and it is an inspiration for us to see how the daring spirit of enterprise, of patient courage which transformed many a wilderness into a fertile province—how they are also inspiring the effort which is extracting humanity from the undergrowth of the social jungle in which it is entangled. In this land the growth is older and the denser, fibre is sturdier; it is ranker. It is with difficulty and labor and toil that we are doing it slowly, laboriously, until, at last we shall cut a way for humanity to march through to the light."

This is a short extract from the speech of Lloyd George at the Eighty Club dinner a few days ago. It expresses as clearly as anything can the spirit and tendency of modern British legislation. There are many lingering consequences of social injustice and nature's early violence which modern science and industry are relieving. Science and industry, to do their perfect work, must be supplemented and directed by government and legislation, and there never was a time in the history of the world when governments approached the question so seriously and intelligently.

Many of the enemies and some of the friends of Britain speak of her as nearing the end of her career, and as having seen her best days. They would predict the economic fate of tomorrow from a study of Rome or Venice and argue that as these met their decline and fall so must England. But there is absolutely no parallel. Those who prophesy so confuse the law that like effects follow like causes into the loose axiom that history repeats itself. Conditions in England today indicate a new epoch that is absolutely without historical precedent, and under the operation of these new conditions the modern empire may continue indefinitely longer than the empires of the past, whose ruins the men with upades are unearthing. The early cities struggled to meet a deficit, the problem today is to distribute a surplus. All civilizations before the nineteenth century belonged to that type of society which may be called the pain or deficit economy, ours belongs to a pleasure or surplus economy. To reason from one to the other without considering these different conditions is wholly to misunderstand the forces of civilization. It is to continue a mental habit long after the conditions that fashioned it have disappeared, and to reason thus is clearly to prove that the intellect has not yet been aroused to the stupendous meaning of the new forces introduced by the present industrial era.

Lloyd George has addressed himself to the task of utilizing the surplus for the common good, and in a way that will promote general welfare and secure better preparation for the future. To do that wisely is not only to stave off the evil day of decline and fall, but it is to enter upon a new and limitless life. Clearing the ground is often sorry work, especially when it involves the destruction of ancient and fair trees. But the government have grasped the axe with firm hand and set themselves resolutely to clear the ground. They will rear a noble house when this rank growth is removed.

**IN AN AWKWARD FIX**

Should reciprocity fall of ratification by the United States Senate, or should the enemies of reciprocity in the Dominion

succeed in defeating it—a most improbable event, it is true—what would be the position of the high protectionist forces in either country? The Montreal Witness answers this question by pointing out that the high protectionists in both countries are in a position of no little difficulty. As for the Canadian protectionists, the Witness says:

"The one objection the Canadian opponents of reciprocity have to it is that it is, in their opinion, sure to lead to a general break down of the Canadian tariff. Now, if that is what they are afraid of, the very worst thing that could happen to their pet institution would be the rejection of reciprocity by the (United States) Senate. It would result in the complete collapse of the Republican party, and would replace it in both Houses, and in the presidential chair, with a party that is fast becoming a free trade party. The dreaded United States free list towards Canada would expand enormously."

In Canada, The Witness points out, opponents of reciprocity have not objected to the reduction of our duties against the United States but of their duties against our products. "It is the reduction of the United States duties towards us of which our standstillers have revealed mortal dread," says the Witness, "as that would Americanize some of our hay, of our butter and cheese and of our wheat and not saying what next. Yet there is a free list coming, over which our legislators can have no control, and as our fiscal and immigration and other international policies have always been shaped by those of the United States, there must be a similar debacle on our side of the line."

"When the Canadian 'National policy' came into being it was introduced by protected free traders. They believed in free trade, they said, but not in hand-protected free trade. So long as high protection was the rule with our neighbor free trade was impossible with us. In other words, they announced that the United States fiscal system must dominate ours. They explained that they were no longer free traders, but 'fair traders.' What they wanted was reciprocity. The war cry of the National policy was 'Reciprocity of trade or reciprocity of tariffs.' As sure as the protective system has been down in the United States it will break down in the world over, but first in Canada. It will be a bad thing for protection if the Senate stands pat against the agreement. The protectionists may well pray that it will pass it."

If reciprocity should not come this year the men who oppose it may be absolutely sure that the next demand for a reduction of the tariff will be much more sweeping than the one now under consideration. There is no escape from that conclusion, and they must make the best of it.

**THE VALLEY RAILROAD**

The Standard is still struggling with the Valley Railroad. Struggle as it may, it is unable to get away from certain salient facts of the situation, among them the following:

"The Federal government has offered to lease the Valley Railroad and to operate it as a part of the Intercolonial for ninety-nine years, and to pay as rental forty per cent of the gross receipts, which would pay the interest on the provincial bonds."

The Federal government has agreed to subsidize the road and even to equip it, when it is built, with the necessary rolling stock.

The Federal government has agreed that, as to grades, the Valley railroad shall be up to the general standard of the Transcontinental in New Brunswick, a stipulation which will permit of grades exceeding four-tenths of one per cent, where the nature of the country renders it necessary.

When Mr. Fleming, and a delegation representing the people of the St. John valley, went to Ottawa, their chief request was that the Valley railroad should be leased and operated as a part of the Intercolonial. Not only has the Federal government agreed to this and made provision for it, but it has agreed to provide the equipment.

Unquestionably this arrangement is the one best suited to the province, for not only does it provide for the payment of the interest on the provincial bonds, but it guarantees the construction and the continued operation of a high class road affording reasonable rates to the people of the river country, and giving connection with the Transcontinental at or near Grand Falls.

If Mr. Hazen and Mr. Fleming were really anxious to get the Valley road built they would speedily embrace the opportunity thus provided by the Dominion government.

**HOT WEATHER FICTION**

This generation reads more newspapers and more fiction than our grandfathers did, but while the quantity is greater there is perhaps more doubt as to the quality. Some of the hot weather fiction that is now available, and that is apparently being read with avidity by the public, is marked by certain peculiarities of style and thought which make one wonder how the novel readers of the day contrive to keep up a sustained interest in it.

Thus, at the beginning of chapter 22 of a popular detective story now being published serially there occurs the following:

"When Howard Willis realized that his wife had mysteriously vanished, nothing could restrain him from joining in the general search."

This remarkable conduct of Mr. Willis is without subsequent explanation. One would have supposed that when his wife had been kidnapped, the anxious husband would have gone to Europe, or have gone to the country, or have done almost anything except "join the general search."

The novelist strains public credulity, the book-reading public, Mr. Willis' anxiety to learn something of his wife's whereabouts was a source of annoyance to the great detective who was at work upon the case, yet the author says: "The detective who kept close to his side was unable by adroit questioning to get at the facts of the mysterious night (during which the lady disappeared) so far at least as the husband was aware of them. He (the detective) learned these facts from the perturbed man by snatches, now in the house, now in the yard, now upon the street, as Howard went hither and thither."

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