THE HERALD

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A correspondent sent the St. John Standard the following problem: If it costs the Dominion $5,000 to buy a heap of sawdust which the owner values at $700, how much would build a Canadian Dreadnought? The Standard answered as followers: The Standard cannot answer this question, further than to say that the market price of a dreadnought seems to be over $10,000,000 Multiply this by seven and one-seventh, and we have $71,428,571.42 But this does not allow for the fact that there would be more than one middleman in the Dreadnought deal.

Mr Chamberlain has issued another appeal to the electiors to support tariff reform. The letter is addressed to his own constituents of West Birmingham, but it is evidently written for the whole country. It is worth noting that he pays no attention to the rather brutal personal attacks that have been made upon him. Mr Chamberlain has nothing to gain from public applause or party success. His own political course is finished. No personal attack can impair his reputation or weaken his influence. To him, looking out on the conflict in which he would once have been the centre, contemplating the past and the future of himself and his country, it must be a matter of indifference what vehement party leaders may say of his life and his motives. What little he has to say is advice to the electors of Great Britain, and not a defence of himself, or an attack upon his assailants — St. John Standard

A former Conservative organizer in England, speaking with The Standard this week, expressed the opinion that one of the younger men from the party in whom Great Britain had most to hope was Earl Percy. Yesterday came the announcement of his death. Earl Percy was not, as his title might imply, a member of the House of Lords, though he was heir to peerage of the Duke of Northumberland. He was thirty-eight years old, and had been a member of the House of Commons fourteen years Under Secretary for India in 1902, he took the same position in the foreign office in 1903, and thus became responsible for the defence in the House of Commons of the foreign policy of the government. In both posts Earl Percy won distinction and he was marked for an important cabinet position in the next ministry. He had been a fine scholar and a prize man in English verse at Oxford and was the author of books of travel in Asiatic Turkey. Earl Percy's mother was a sister of the present Duke of Argyle. Fate is dealing severely with the Conservatives in the campaign. The death of Earl Percy, who was a candidate for re-election in Kensington, follows the illness of Mr. Balfour, and the temporary infirmity of Lord Milner. These are unexpected troubles. The loss of Mr Chamberlain's active service was no surprise though it is a great calamity.—St John Standard.

An increase in customs receipts of $89,741,770 and internal revenue receipts of $8,412,000 during the first six months of the fiscal year 1910 as compared with the corresponding period of the fiscal year 1909 is the showing of the operations of the United States treasury at Washington according to the latest figures available which lack one or two days of being complete.

Ignoring the People.

The year 1909 has run its course and given place to 1910, and yet the Government of Prince Edward Island has given the tax payers no information as to the manner in which the public money has been spent during the past fiscal year. The Government's financial year closed on the 30th of September last; so that the people have no account of what has been done by the Government with all the money paid into the Provincial treasury for the last fifteen months. The Liberal Government that changed the termination of the fiscal year from Dec. 31 to Sept. 30 also enacted that the public accounts of the Province might be published at any time after the close of the year. But the Government have never availed themselves of the authority with which this act clothed them; they have never made known the financial transactions of any year until the Legislative session of the following year, frequently well unto six months after the accounts are supposed to be closed. In thus acting the Government are quite in accord with their conduct in all other public matters. In all other public actions they seem to ignore the people; to keep their masters in the dark regarding the business for which members are sent to the Legislature, and to conceal from the electors as far as possible, all knowledge of how the public money is spent. The accounts of the financial year ended three months ago are not made public; no notice is yet given of the call of the Legislature for the despatch of business; the people are still paying two prices for schoolbooks, and a hundred and one other public matters are neglected by the Government. Was it to act thus the people put them in power? Was it to do as they please in defiance of the rights and claims and necessities of the people that the Government have managed to keep themselves in power? Surely it is high time the people should give these matters serious consideration.

British Election Campaign.

The most interesting utterance in Arthur J Balfour's first speech since his recovery, delivered at Haddington, was his eloquent tribute to Earl Percy, by whose untimely death, he said, "not merely the Unionist party, but the nation sustained a great, and for a time, he feared, an irreparable loss." The Unionists maintain that the Liberals have exhausted their budget ammunition and that the attacks on the House of Lords are falling flat, while, on the contrary, tariff reform is booming even in Lancashire. Be this as it may, many Unionist hearts have undoubtedly emitted the sigh, "Oh, for a fortnight of old-time Chamberlain." Especially is this the case now that Lord Milner is hors de combat. He is the most powerful advocate of tariff reform, and since he has been absent from the field the Unionist campaign is more than ever a "soldier's battle." Mr Joseph Chamberlain's manifesto to his constituents breaths a little of the fire so dreaded by his opponents a few years back. He said: "I cannot think the budget will secure support, as it taxes unequally men of equal means and throws the whole burden of taxation on our own people, without even attempting to secure any contribution from foreigners. I believe its effects will be to lessen the amount of employment and thereby aggravate the distress so bitterly felt" Mr Chamberlain maintains that the Lords did not go behind their duty in rejecting the budget, and believes the time is ripe for tariff reform, because "we now have an opportunity of securing more largely the trade of our sister states, and our colonies are willing to meet us if we consent to a reciprocal system equally advantageous to them and us" He also declares that the present government, in continuing free trade, is actuated by prejudice alone. "If we throw away this opportunity I do not think any other will come to us. We shall have lost altogether the chance which is now ours."

The Unionists are cheered by the fact that Mr Balfour was able to speak at Haddingtonshire. The peers are still vigorously stumping the country, though they are frequently heckled. Mr F. E. Smith at Landudno, declared that these who in the name of democracy were attacking the titled heridetary honors of the peerages were in a very difficult position when they were face to face with the admitted fact that rich men in the Liberal party were falling over each other in an attempt to get into the House of Lords. Mr Bonar, Law at Dulwick, said Mr Winston Churchill wrote his manifesto under the influence of a nightmare untroubled and read it when he awoke. Lord Winchester, at Christchurch, remarked that the burning question at the election, if they were to believe Mr Churchill and Mr Lloyd-George, was the vote of the House of Lords, but he found the audiences on the question as cool as a cucumber. They had shown no enthusiasm whatever, for the subject. The House of Lords had never refused to bow to the expressed will of the people, and if it remained as at present constituted, it would never do such a foolish thing. Sir Gilbert Parker, at Aylesbury, said that, "since Canada gave us the preference Great Britain had doubled its shipping with her and last year British workmen got nine millions in wages out of the purchases of Canada." Through the death of Earl Percy, who was a candidate in South Kensington, the Conservatives have found themselves in a somewhat difficult position, "but another candidate will be chosen immediately," says the secretary of the Conservative association. Mr Balfour is said to be looking forward to a majority in the next House of Commons of 60, while Mr Chamberlain hopes for 100.

Laurier, Fielding & Co.

The budget speech of Mr. Fielding was typical of the man. It was full of "ifs." There would have been a larger surplus "if" and the gross revenue would have been greater "but for the fact that" whilst as for the additions to the debt they would not have occurred "if" something else had not happened. The effort to arouse enthusiasm was not successful and it is hard for even the most conscientious government supporter to wax eloquent over the budget presentation this session. Mr. Fielding's handling of the debt was characteristic. He stated with a note of pride in his voice that the increase of $46,000,000 was the largest since he had the honor of dealing with the finances of the country. Fancy a minister of the crown being proud of additions to the country's burdens. It is to laugh.

Mr. Fielding blew the bubble of an imaginary surplus although it is hard to see how there can be a surplus with an addition to the debt of some $46,000,000. This is one of the tricks of the famous Fielding Bookkeeping System, and it is safe to say that if any merchant instituted and put into operation such a system he would be in the bankrupt court inside of a year. But this sort of thing does not worry those men who have been trained in the Laurier school of public affairs. Their motto is what does it matter about additions to the debt so long as the Laurier trough is kept full for the middlemen?

Then there is Mr. Aylesworth who has been frequently dubbed on the floor of parlisment "the Minister of Injustice." His political wheels run on a very narrow gauge. He trested as a matter of amusement the question of the suit entered by the famous North Atlantic Trading Company against the Dominion for $77,000, for alleged damages caused by the cancellation of the contract. The case was brought up by Mr. Monk who put it fairly, and argued if the government was being sued, surely the defendants, the government itself, should know who the suitors were. It was then that Mr. Aylesworth gave an instance of his political small mindedness. So far as the personel of the company was concerned he did not think it was anybody's business, and he had no hesitation in declaring that so far as he was concerned he had not the slightest curiosity to know who the men behind this famous company who got close upon half a million of the people's money were. The North Atlantic Trading Company will go down in the political history of Canada with the Saskatchewan Valley Land deal and the Imperial Pulp Company as evidences of the way in which graft flourished under the sunny smile or Laurierism.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has at last made up his mind to resign his seat for Ottawa and sit for Quebec east. This is very kind of the premier who since June last has been breaking the unwritten law of British parliamentary procedure and has represented two seats. There are already signs of a by election on parliament hill and the usual methods will no doubt be adopted to ensure the return of a supporter of the system which has made millionaires out of political paupers. The action of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in clinging to the two seats of Ottawa and Quebec east was roundly denounced in some sections of the government press. The Montreal Witness, a strong Liberal organ made the following editorial comment on the situation: "It is common knowledge that the delay was caused by the fact that among the Liberals of Ottawa there were rival claimants for the seat and it was feared that between them it would be lost if reopened for contest by Sir Wilfrids resignation It is evident that such a state of things should not be allowed to occur again. In England it is very rare indeed for the same candidate to be elected for two constituencies. It is against the genius of parliamentary practice. But in the event of such a happening the successful aspirant would have to choose for which constituency he would sit and take the oath as member for that place. The other seat would have to resign, and there would be an immediate by election. This procedure might well be followed in Canada as it is against public policy for any person or government to be allowed to disfranchise any body of electors indefinitely"

This is strong advice from the old Liberal Witness but the civil war in the Liberal ranks in Ottawa is blazing away so merrily that the party is unwilling to fix a date for the by election, and the sordid squabble over the leaves and fisher goes on.

Major J A Currie, one of the more militant members of the new opposition who redeemed North Simcoe at the last general election made a good impression in the budget debate and several times had Mr Fielding cornered. He drew attention to the fact that the Finance Minister was burdening posterity with a huge debt which they will have the privilege of paying and as to the incurring of which they had nothing whatever to say. This is one of the most astonishing sides to Mr Fieldings political make up. He goes gail on piling up the debt taking no heed of the morrow and with the blind faith that he will be able to muddle through some how. He is frittering away money for expenditures on so called capital account for undertakings such as the New Market Canal which is miles away from any water and which is merely a vehicle for the employment of the electors of Hon A B Aylesworth. The day of retribution however cannot be indefinitely delayed, and it will overtake and overwhelm Laurierism and all it stands for as certain as the sun rises in the morning.

Fire in the plant of the American Bridge Co., at Milwaukee, last Monday night caused the death of four firemen who were buried under a falling wall, and caused property damage to the extent of $250,000. Several others were injured and several suffered frost bites while fighting the fire.

A Letter from Architect Harris.

The following letter from, W. C Harris, Architect has been sent to the newspapers:

Sir:—I have just seen a report in the Halifax Herald about the failing of a portion of the parapet wall on the Market building in Charlottetown.

In regard to this matter I wish to state that, although I made the plans for the Market building, I was not employed or paid as the superintending architect. The specification called for some one hundred and eighty malleable iron ties of certain sizes to be used where necessary for tying the stone walls to the framework of the structure, and if the contractors did not insert these irons in the proper places, it was not in any sense my fault. In my original plans, I designed the eaves in the same simple way as the eaves of the front gables of St Paul's Church are constructed, which is the very best for the severe climatic conditions in Prince Edward Island, but was unwillingly directed to change this detail for the more elaborate one with parapet above the slate roof.

This, however, should not have given way, under snow pressure, if properly tied to the interior framework during construction.

I remain, yours truly,

W. C. HARRIS.

Halifax, Dec. 27th.

Fatal Explosion.

Twenty five people were injured, some fatally, in an explosion which occurred at 11.20 Friday night at the C P R Place Viger station Montreal. The Quebec train was just about to pull out and the platform was thronged with people wishing the passengers good bye and a happy New Year. A lighted cigar fell into a leaking tube underneath the platform from which the pitch gas is fed to the trains and the explosion which followed, ripped up the whol platform. There was a scene of indescribable confusion and a general ambulance call was sent out. It was a difficult job to recover all of the victims from the wreckage but work was rushed feverishly. One poor woman had her legs torn right off, while many others are so badly injured that their recovery is not expected. Later reports from the hospital state that Madame Dubeault whose legs were torn from her body is so badly injured that she will un[illegible] Amongst others badly injured are E Betrand, H. Labelle, R Simson, S. Barrie, T. J. Bellerose and J. Filteau all of whom were taken to the hospital The hospital attendants were kept busy for some time in carrying the victims out on stretchers and a large crowd gathered around the station. The platform of the station was completely wrecked but none of the passengers on the train were injured and the train got off with a short delay.

Railway Kills and Injures

Three persons were killed and forty five injured Friday by the derailing and partial burning of a westbound Rock Island passenger train near Trenton, Mo. The wreck is thought to have been caused by spreading rails While the train was running at high speed the locomotive and tender plunged over a five foot embankment, dragging two baggage cars, a mail car and a tourist car and a standard sleeping car with them, Another sleeping car and an observation car remained on the track. While passengers in the wrecked car were struggling to escape from the debris, fire started from the fire box. The cars burned rapidly and three slain passengers were partly burned. Scores of persons were rescued as the flames were scorching their clothing or burning their flesh. David Seigel, of Cleveland, Ohio, was held by wreckage for an hour while the fire burned within a few feet of him. The rescuers carried water from the tender and kept the fire from reaching him. Eventually he was rescued, although he may lose an arm. Heroic rescues were numerous. Unharmed men and women who escaped from the upset cars by breaking windows or breaking down doors rushed into the burning wreckage to rescue the less fortunate passengers. Not a building was near the wreck. The ground was covered with snow and a raw wind was blowing. The men collected coats from the cars that were not burning and protected the women, and women tore strips from their linen to make bandages for the wounded. The injured were placed in the two cars that remained on the track. Bonfires and the burning cars prevented frost bites until a relief train had arrived from Trenton. The most seriously injured were taken to a hotel in Trenton, while the other passengers were taken to Kansas City.

LOCAL & OTHER ITEMS

Be sure to date your letters 1910.

At Lowell Mass, George Marcotte throw his six year old brother into a canal. The [illegible] and the boy. The other brother gave himself up.

The winter steamer plied between Charlottetown and Pictou for a few days. Yesterday the Minto went to Georgetown from Pictou and the Earl Grey did not leave Charlottetown.

AN OPENING for [illegible] women; good pay copying and addressing our advertising material; home, spare time, no canvassing. Send [illegible] stamp Simplex Mfg. Co., London, O. [illegible] 2

Seventy-eight lynchings took place in the United States in 1909. The victims were 65 negroes and 13 whites. All but one were in the Southern States. Illinois and Oregon were the only Northern States to furnish instances of mob law.

She lived, behind [illegible] and a man and a woman [illegible] were found by the [illegible] Cape, N. B., on Friday [illegible] woman's condition was serious [illegible] exposure and she was taken to the Moncton Hospital, where [illegible] stated. The pair were [illegible] who were breaking roads.

The residents of [illegible] of Calabria and [illegible] relatives of the victims [illegible] quake in many places [illegible] Tuesday of last week [illegible] morning. It was the first anniversary of the catastrophe at Messina [illegible] Reggio di Calabria, when more than 200,000 persons perished. The Archbishop [illegible] celebrated a requiem Mass to the [illegible] victims and there were [illegible] elsewhere. Wreaths [illegible] graves of the victims [illegible] which thousands [illegible] placed wreaths [illegible] recovered bodies [illegible] actions to the relief [illegible] subscriptions were [illegible] the children made [illegible] The King gave $1,000 [illegible] 543 earthquakes [illegible] stone station [illegible]

In this issue will [illegible] ment of Mr Charles [illegible] of concrete bricks [illegible] concrete for all kinds [illegible] A specialty of his [illegible] brick. In his estimation [illegible] ared a standard brick [illegible] troyed by frost, [illegible] This he manufacturer is prepared to prove, he plant to be established [illegible] Bridge will be sufficient [illegible] provide for the erection of [illegible] of any dimensions, and will be equipped with all modern appliances in the builder's line. The beautiful mansion of the Misses Macdonald at St. George [illegible] described in the HERALD, is a sample of [illegible] work in concrete buildings. Land [illegible] arms out. Mr Lee [illegible] Island by the first of April [illegible] when he will at once [illegible] on his plant. In the meantime he will be glad to receive correspondence from any one desirous of having work done like the [illegible] executed during the coming summer. All communications will receive prompt attention. His present Address is 48 Brook Road, Quincy Mass.

MARRIED.

BEDFORD—CLARK—[illegible] on Dec. 21st, 1909, [illegible] J. Soaris, P. E. I., to F. J. Bedford, of Sudbury.

BANKS—CONOHAN—[illegible] Dundas, on the 21st [illegible] 1909, by Rev. M. N. McLean, John C. Banks, of [illegible] to Margaret Ann Conohan [illegible] Bridge.

BOWMAN—YOUNKER—On the 29th inst., at the Methodist Parsonage, Upper Prince Street, by Rev. Wm. Harriner, Lester G. Bowman, of Central Royalty, to the Elizabeth Yoncker, of N. [illegible]

COLLINGS—LEE—[illegible] Alberta, on [illegible] 1909, [illegible] A. G. Baker, [illegible] to Miss Mabel [illegible] Calgary.

LEERMAN—STEINKELLER—[illegible] gary, Alberta, [illegible] brine's father, on Nov. 10th, 1909, by Rev. D. A. Gunn, [illegible] to Miss Martha [illegible] Calgary.

HIBBETT—WHEELER—[illegible] on January 4th, [illegible] Georgetown to Miss [illegible] Wheeler of Boston.

MURCHISON—MCPHAIL—[illegible] Jan. 4th, 1910, Dr. Murchison [illegible] River to Miss Sophia McPhail, City.

DIED

ANDERSON—At Okaihau, New Zealand suddenly on Oct. 1st, Alexander Anderson, formerly of New London, Prince Edward Island, aged 70 years.

LIVINGSTONE—At [illegible] Hill, Dundas, Dec. 16th, 1909, [illegible] Livingstone, in the 81st year of her age.

BURROWS—Suddenly at Summerside, on Dec. 21st, William T. Burrows, aged 61 years, leaving three sons and five daughters to mourn.

CARSON—At Highfield, on Jan. 1st, W George Carson, aged 48 years.

HALLORAN—In this city, on Jan. 2nd, 1910, Peter Halloran, aged 79 years. His wife predeceased him by a number of years. Two sons and five daughters are left to mourn. May his rest in peace.

McISAAC—At St. Charles, on Dec 23rd, Robert, only son of Donald and the late Mrs. McIsaac, aged 19 years. May his soul rest in peace.

STEWART—At Hazelbrook, on Dec. 24th, Mrs. Duncan Stewart, aged 77 years.

GRAHAM—At Georgetown, Dec. 31, 1909, May aged 17 months, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] Graham.

HENRY—At Lower Montague, Dec. 17 1909, Margaret, relict of the late Dougald Henry, aged 94, formerly of Summerside.

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"	36	45.00	for 29.00
"	36	53.00	for 35.00
"	38	58.00	for 39.00
Bokharan Lamb	35	60.00	for 39.00
"	36	65.00	for 39.00
Russian Lamb	36	80.00	for 49.00
" "	36	80.49	for 49.00
" "	38	85.00	for 55.00
" "	36	95.00	for 59.00

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