The Semi-Weekly Telegraph and The News

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LIBERAL VICTORY AND VALLEY RAILWAY ----- YORK EXPECTS BOTH

AND THE TARIFF

be within the comprehension of any elector.

Last year there were extensive shipments of Canadian pears, raspberries, cherries, black currants and grapes to the United States. The duty on these varied, being levied by the pound, the quart, the bushel, or ad valorem. On these sales the American government collected $40,131. That will be remitted under the tariff relief agreement. On fresh fruit, including melons, imported into Canada from the United States during the past year the dominion government levied about $260,000. This, too, will be remitted. In all some $300,000 will be removed from international sales of fruit. Who pays it now? If we make an even compromise on the question as to whether the buyer or seller pays the duty the result will be in all $150,000 more paid to fruit producers and $150,000 less paid by fruit consumers on both sides of the line. There is nothing really mysterious about this. Some people are now paying $300,000, which they will not be called upon to pay when the tariff relief is effected. It is not mysterious or impossible, but virtually inevitable, that buyers and sellers on both sides shall share the gain. The total gain will be much greater than the amount of cash now actually paid to customs officers. The great and unrecorded loss through obstruction and consequent inconvenience will be obviated. Sellers on both sides will gain through the opening of wider and more convenient markets. Buyers on both sides will gain through the broadening of the field of choice. There is certainly nothing strange or paradoxical about this. While minds not accustomed to economic thought may be momentarily puzzled, it is at least surprising to see a professor of political economy baffled over a supposed mystery and charging advocates of tariff relief with being self-contradictory.

VERY LITTLE CHANGE IN MARKET PRICES

Very little change has occurred last week in the local markets. The banana season has opened and E. A. Goodwin was landing his second carload yesterday. Prices are reported to be opening easier than last year and if the present indications hold good they will be lower during the season. Very little dry fish is moving at the present time as the exorbitant prices are driving people to buy other things. Eggs are a little lower in the country market and western beef eased off a quarter of a cent. In feed, bran is higher while pressed hay in car lots and oatmeal, in bags, is lower.

Beef, western	0.09½	"	0.10½
Beef, butchers	0.08½	"	0.10
Beef, country	0.08½	"	0.09½
Mutton, per lb	0.09	"	0.10
Pork, per lb	0.10	"	0.10½
Native cabbage	0.60	"	1.00
Spring lamb	0.12	"	0.13
Veal, per lb	0.08	"	0.10
New potatoes, per bbl	1.90	"	2.00
Eggs, hennery, per doz	0.22	"	0.23
Eggs, case, per doz	0.00	"	0.20
Tub butter, per lb	0.20	"	0.22
Roll butter, per lb	0.21	"	0.24
Creamery butter	0.24	"	0.26
Hides, per lb	0.08	"	0.09
Calfskins, per lb	0.00	"	0.15
Ducks	1.00	"	1.25
Fowls, pair, fresh killed	1.10	"	1.50
Spring chickens, pair, fresh killed	1.25	"	1.50
Turkeys, per lb	0.28	"	0.30
Lettuce, per doz	0.35	"	0.50
Celery, per doz	0.00	"	1.20
Maple syrup, per gal	1.00	"	1.25
Maple sugar, per lb	0.12	"	0.14
Bacon	0.00	"	0.16
Ham	0.00	"	0.16
Carrots, per bbl	0.00	"	1.40
Beets, per bbl	0.00	"	1.50
Mushrooms	0.50	"	0.00
Squash	0.00	"	0.04
Turnips	0.00	"	0.75

FRUITS, ETC.

New walnuts	0.12	to	0.13
Grenoble walnuts	0.14	"	0.15
Marbot walnuts	0.13	"	0.00
Almonds	0.13	"	0.14
California prunes	0.06½	"	0.09½
Filberts	0.11	"	0.12
Brazils	0.14	"	0.15
Pecans	0.14	"	0.16
New dates, per lb	0.05	"	0.06
Peanuts, roasted	0.10	"	0.11
Bag figs, per lb	0.04	"	0.05
Lemons, Messina, box	2.75	"	3.00
Cocoanuts, per doz	0.60	"	0.70
Cocoanuts, per sack	4.00	"	4.50
Bananas	1.75	"	2.75
California oranges, naval	3.00	"	3.50
Val. oranges	3.75	"	4.50
Val onions, case	3.00	"	3.50
Ont. onions, bag	0.00	"	1.40
New figs, box	0.08	"	0.12

GROCERIES.

Choice seeded, 1s	0.08¼	"	0.08½
Fancy do	0.08½	"	0.09
Malaga clusters	2.35	"	3.00
Currants, cleaned, 1s	0.08¼	"	0.08¾
Cheese, per lb	0.13½	"	0.13¾
Rice, per lb	0.03¼	"	0.03½
Cream tartar, pure, box	0.26	"	0.27
Bicarb soda, per keg	2.10	"	2.20
Molasses, fancy Barbados	0.27	"	0.28
Beans, hand picked	2.15	"	2.20
Beans, yellow eye	2.40	"	2.50
Split peas	5.75	"	6.00
Pot barley	5.50	"	5.75
Cornmeal	2.75	"	2.80
Granulated cornmeal	4.65	"	4.75
Liverpool salt, per sack, ex store	0.70	"	0.75

SUGAR.

Standard granulated	4.65	"	4.75
United Empire granulated	4.55	"	4.65
Bright yellow	4.45	"	4.55
No. 1 yellow	4.15	"	4.25
Paris lump	5.60	"	5.75

PROVISIONS.

Pork, domestic mess	23.50	"	24.50
Pork, American clear	22.25	"	24.00
American plate beef	20.25	"	20.50
Lard, pure, tub	0.13	"	0.13½
Lard, compound, tub	0.11¾	"	0.12

FLOUR, ETC.

Oatmeal	4.85	"	4.90
Standard oatmeal	5.35	"	5.40
Manitoba high grade	6.15	"	6.25
Ontario medium patent	5.00	"	5.05
Ontario full patent	5.20	"	5.25

OILS.

Pratt's Astral	0.00	"	0.18½
White Rose & Chester	0.00	"	0.16½
High grade Sarnia and Arc light	0.00	"	0.16
Silver Star	0.00	"	0.15½
Linseed Oil, boiled	1.20	"	0.00
Linseed oil, raw	1.17	"	0.00
Turpentine	1.14	"	0.00
Extra lard oil	0.87	"	0.00
Extra No. 1 lard	0.81	"	0.00

CITIZENS DEMAND CIVIC HOME RULE

A Great Popular Demonstration Here

Last Night's Indignation Meeting Very Largely Attended

Stiff Resolution Addressed to Legislature Protesting Against Aldermanic Attempt for Royal Commission — Able Speeches by Prominent Men — Labor Representative Supports Elective Commission Plan —Whose is Hidden Hand?

Tuesday, March 28,

There is no doubt that the people of St. John are in earnest in their determination to bring about a better system of civic government by means of an elective commission, or that they are equally determined not to stand for interference with their rights by the legislature in the appointment of a royal commission to draft a charter. Last night's meeting in the assembly rooms of the Nickel Theatre was emphatic on these points.

By an unanimous vote, a resolution was adopted condemning the action of the aldermen in the common council, who on Thursday last adopted the report of the bills and by-laws committee recommending that the legislature be asked to appoint a royal commission to draft a charter for St. John in the event of the people voting for the elective commission plan of government.

While the measure on Thursday last was adopted by a vote of eight to seven, it is interesting to note that letters were read at last night's meeting from the two aldermen who were absent—Alderman Christie and Alderman Holder—stating that had they been present at the meeting they would have opposed the resolution which asked for a royal commission.

Despite the inclement weather there was an audience that numbered in the vicinity of 600 or 700 citizens—all taxpayers and very much in earnest. It was one of the most representative gatherings that has ever been held in St. John to consider a public question, and all shades of politics and every walk of life in the city were represented.

There was no organized list of speakers, but one and all were invited to state their views as to the attitude of the aldermen in voting away the rights of the people by asking the legislature to do something that the citizens of St. John were able to do themselves. Reference was made by one of the speakers to "the hidden hand" behind the proposal for a royal commission, and other speakers also alluded to someone who was apparently behind the scheme.

Among the speakers at the meeting were W. H. Barnaby, Miles E. Agar, L. P. D. Tilley, Timothy Donovan, E. L. Rising, Rev. Dr. G. M. Campbell, Walter W. Allingham, Don. F. Pidgeon, Col. A. J. Armstrong, J. Harry McGoldrick and Kendall Hall.

Previous to the meeting many signed the petitions which are being circulated, asking the provincial legislature not to adopt the bill asking for the appointment of a royal commission to draft a charter, but to allow the citizens to work out their own plan of government.

W. H. Barnaby, chairman of the citizens' committee, called the meeting to order and asked that a chairman be elected. On motion of Alexander Rowan, Mr. Barnaby was elected.

The chairman then outlined the purpose of the meeting. He said those present were doubtless aware of what had been done to try and bring about government by an elective commission of five men. The matter had been pretty fully agitated and those who were interested in the work on the citizens' committee were satisfied that it was a good work.

However, this meeting, he said, was not in the interests of the citizens' committee, though the call for it had emanated therefrom. The common council had asked the provincial government to appoint a royal commission to frame a charter for governing the city. At the meeting two of the members of the council were absent, but the motion was put and eight members voted that the legislature be asked to appoint a royal commission to frame a charter, and seven members, to their honor, voted against it. (Applause.) "All honor to them, I say, because if there is anything that the citizens are jealous of it is their rights and they should fling it back in the aldermen's teeth." (Applause).

The citizens' committee had thought it proper to call a public meeting at which the citizens could have an opportunity to protest against such action. When the aldermen asked the legislature to frame a charter they admitted their own incapacity. (Hear, hear.) While there were two aldermen absent on that occasion, he had received letters from them which explained their positions. He then read letters from Alderman Christie and Alderman Holder, who had been unavoidably absent, in which they stated that had they been pres-

(Continued on page 8, fifth column.)

STRONG RESOLUTION OF CITIZENS CONDEMNING ACTION OF ALDERMEN

Following is the Resolution unanimously passed at the Indignation Meeting in Keith's Assembly Rooms last nigh —

Resolved: That this meeting of citizens condemns in the most vigorous terms the action of the Aldermen who voted for a Resolution asking the Legislature to appoint a Royal Commission to frame a new city charter; a Bill which may be of the greatest importance to every citizen of the city and the framing of which no outside influence should be permitted to control.

If by the vote at the coming Civic Election a new charter is required, it will be the right and duty of the Aldermen then elected to prepare such a charter and submit it to the Legislature for final approval, we naturally expecting that the Common Council will, in the framing of this very important Bill, seek the aid and advice of the best talent representing the various interests of the city.

We submit it was a gross breach of trust for those Aldermen, with only a few weeks of office remaining, to attempt to vote away such an important right of the people who elected them, and to deprive their successors in office a few weeks hence of the right and privilege of carrying out the will and voice of the people.

Further Resolved: That a copy of this Resolution be sent to Hon. J. Douglas Hazen, Hon. Robert Maxwell, and Messrs. J. E. Wilson and W. F. Hathaway, urging that they use all their influence with the Government and Legislature to prevent the passing of this Bill.

CHARLES D. SHELDON CAUGHT IN PITTSBURG AFTER EXCITING CHASE

Former Montreal Broker Charged With Embezzlement involving Nearly $2,000,000 Will Waive Extradition Rights —Disappeared Last October.

Canadian Press.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 27—Charles D. Sheldon, alias Charles D. Washburn of Montreal, who is wanted in that city on charges of embezzlement, said to involve nearly $2,000,000, was arrested here late today at Fourth avenue and Smithfield streets, in the local financial district, by a private detective from the east. Sheldon, who was also known here as C. W. Ross, admitted that he was a fugitive from Canada. Information received by local authorities charged him with embezzlement and receiving money by false pretences in the sum of $500,000.

When the detective approached Sheldon he made a sensational attempt to escape, and was captured only after an exciting chase. When brought to the central police station, Sheldon asked permission to use the telephone. He called up a local stock broker and gave orders to close out his deals on the local stock exchange.

Sheldon, according to the police tonight, disappeared from Montreal last October. His stock operations there are said to have excited the suspicion of the authorities and a Montreal newspaper. Sheldon maintained that he was doing a legitimate business and offered to submit his books to the crown prosecutor for complete investigation. On October 13, he suddenly disappeared before the officials had an opportunity to investigate further. It was then learned he had closed his accounts at several banks. Sheldon came direct to this city. Apparently he spent all his time around the local stock market, but maintained no office nor has it been learned where he made his home while he remained here. The prisoner is of distinguished type. He is 58 years old, five feet nine inches tall, and weighs 200 pounds.

Tonight after asking about the extradition treaty between the United States and Canada, Sheldon said: "Well, I am the man wanted and I guess the best thing for me to do is to waive all extradition rights."

Following Sheldon's departure from Montreal, a newspaper, which had questioned his financial transactions, offered a reward of $10,0000 for his arrest.

About three years ago Sheldon opened an office in Montreal, and carried on an investment and brokerage business. He advertised extensively. For a time, it is said, he paid from 25 to 50 per cent on these investments monthly. In a short time money came pouring into his office from all parts of Canada. The fact that large dividends had been paid to a number of his customers attracted widespread attention and, it is said, investors fell over each other to give Sheldon their money. Agents were employed in many towns and cities to solicit and collect money for him on a 10 per cent commission. About this time the newspapers became suspicious and commenced an investigation. For a time Sheldon fought the newspapers through advertisements in other papers. Then, it is said, when the authorities were about to examine his books he fled.

Activein Montreal.

Montreal, March 27—Charles D. Sheldon, as he was known in Montreal, disappeared on Oct. 11, leaving behind him creditors to the amount of nearly $2,000,000, as a result of his blind pool operations, and assets of about $18,000. The real liabilities of Sheldon, however, were only about $800,000, the balance of $1,200,000 representing dividends declared upon investments which their owners had left with him to accumulate. Sheldon began business in a very modest way about a year previous to his disappearance, but when after a few months he continued paying dividends at the rate of twenty per cent. per month to those who invested money with him, his fame spread and he soon had customers all over the dominion. By June, his operations had become so extensive that the local stock brokers began feeling the lack of customers, and a newspaper campaign was begun against him. This led to a falling off in the number of new customers added, and a consequent lack of money with which to pay the "dividends" declared at the end of each month. A run set in one day on Sheldon's office, and the "wizard" at once recognized that the time to get out had arrived. Investigation of his accounts with local brokers showed that he had operated on very modest lines, and with but little success. All classes of people were numbered among his customers, and it is stated that the lack of energy shown in the search for him was directly due to the fact that some influential people preferred standing the loss they had incurred rather than have him brought back to Montreal and run the risk of having their connection with him exposed. Sheldon's assets will pay, according to the last report of the curators of his estate, about a cent on the dollar.

BEATRICE FAIRFAX DEAD

London, Ont., March 27—Word was received in this city tonight of the death in New York, of Miss Winnifred Scatcherd. Miss Scatcherd's writings were known all over the United States under the pen name of Beatrice Fairfax. She was employed by the Hearst papers. Her family was at one time social leaders in London. Miss Scatcherd left here about six years ago.

NUMBER OF DEAD IN NEW YORK FIRE PLACED AT 141

Fixing the Blame for Terrible Loss Now Going On

STATE OFFICERS ACTIVE IN THE WORK

Probers Find Evidence of Very Dangerous Conditions in Factory Building Where So Many Met Death—Thirty-three Bodies Lie Unidentified at Morgue—Many Fighting for Life in Hospitals.

Canadian Press

New York, March 27—The fixing of the blame for the loss of 141 lives in the Washington Square fire Saturday drew to a focus today the energies of the district attorney's staff, the fire marshal, the coroner, the state labor department and Borough President McAneny, of Manhattan. Dozens of investigators collected every scrap of available information. Grand jurymen turned personal probers, and an additional grand jury in a formal resolution presented to the court of general sessions offered their aid to the district attorney and declared that some one should be prosecuted for the disaster.

What the Probers Found.

The probers found evidence that doors at exits swung inward; the crumpled fire escape in the airshaft, the one fire escape blocked by iron shutters when opened, an empty water tank on the roof, and the practice prevalent among cutters of lighting cigarettes a few minutes before quitting time—all this and what is yet to be ferreted out, will be placed speedily before the grand jury for action, district attorney Whitman announced.

The tenement house department, summoned owners of half a dozen faulty structures to police court as a preliminary step to a far-reaching investigation of tenements. One man was held for violating the law, and other cases, it was announced, will be pressed tomorrow. Fire Marshal Beers, summoned the proprietors of the Triangle Waist Company and several employes to testify at a public investigation, largely to inquire into the truth of reports that doors leading to fire escapes were blocked.

No Proper Signs.

"So far as I can discover," he said, "there has never been a fire drill in this factory. In my opinion it would take 700 girls three hours to reach the street by the one fire escape in that building. Nine-tenths of the employes cannot speak English, yet I could not find a sign in Yiddish or Italian pointing out the fire escapes."

The fire marshal said he was convinced that a cigarette lit by a cutter and thrown in a heap of clippings had started the fire.

A relief fund for the sufferers is headed by a $5,000 donation by Andrew Carnegie, The United Hebrew charities, the Austrian Hebrew Free Burial Association and other organizations come to the front with aid.

Thirty three bodies, most of them shorn of all semblance to human form, lie unidentified tonight at the Charities Pier morgue. Twelve persons, most of them girls, in their teens, are fighting for life in hospitals. Half a hundred funeral trains trailed through the east side and the Italian district near the factory, and as many more are scheduled for tomorrow. The unidentified will be buried in a single grave, but will be held as long as possible to give relatives and friends an opportunity to claim them.

Final figures place the death list at 141, as announced last night. Of these 13 bodies were taken from the scene of the disaster and eight died in hospitals. The list will be swelled, surgeons say, by the others who have no chance for recovery.

BRITISH TROOPS TO STRENGTHEN THE JAMAICAN GARRISON

Kingston, Jam., March 27—The local papers print the report that upon the completion of the Panama canal the Jamaican garrison will be strengthened by the addition of 1,000 British infantry. A hint of this was given by one of the chief military officers during a debate in the legislature last month.

It is generally believed that the building recently destroyed by fire in the naval yard at Port Royal will be replaced and the yard again opened.

AMERICAN DUCHESS GUEST OF ROYALTY

London, March 27—The King and Queen were the guests at dinner tonight of the Duke and Duchess of Roxburghe at Chesterfield House. The Duchess of Roxburghe was Miss May Goelet of New York.

The Duke accompanied King George and Queen Mary, when as Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York they went through Canada in 1901.

YORK SEES THAT HAZEN IS BLUFFING

STRONG RUMOR THAT BORDEN WILL RESIGN LEADERSHIP

West Wants McBride or Roblin and Conservative Leader May Soon Give Party Chance to Decide—Eastern Friends Say Story Was Started by His Enemies.

Special to The Telegraph.

Ottawa, March 27.—The story emanating from Montreal and printed in the Toronto Telegram today to the effect that R. L. Borden intends to resign the leadership of the Conservative party in the near future, has caused a considerable flurry in Conservative circles here tonight. It is significant that in a certain wing of the party the story was accepted as being quite probable and a development that would not be hailed as a catastrophe. It is an open secret that there is no enthusiasm for Mr. Bordens leadership in Quebec, particularly among the monied interests of Montreal, which have never taken kindly to his Halifax platform of three years ago. In the west there is also a clamor for a new leader, preferably Premier McBride, with Premier Roblin as second choice. The anti-reciprocity stand of the opposition leader has been very distasteful to his western followers, and privately they do not hesitate to declare that it has practically meant political suicide for them.

On the other hand Ontario and the Maritime Province Conservatives are loyal to Mr. Borden, even though they admit his limitations as a successful politician. They see no better man in sight and are opposed to any change of leaders. They believe in his integrity and his public capacity and they are warmly devoted to him on personal grounds, believing that his failure to lead his party to victory and his political past have been the result of circumstances for which he was not personally responsible.

Freely Discussed.

In the corridors tonight these aspects of the situation were being rather freely talked over while some statement from Mr. Borden was being awaited as to the truth of the rumor that he would resign. It is significant that no denial was forthcoming for several hours. Then the word was passed round that the rumor emanated from political enemies of the Conservative leader in Montreal to get rid of Mr. Borden and to supplant him him by Premier McBride, if the latter could be induced to accept the position. It is an open secret that Mr. Rodolphe Forget, the Montreal millionaire, has offered several times to finance, "a deal" of that kind. Mr. William Price, M. P. for Quebec west, is also said to be another leader in the movement for deposition. Their opposition to his leadership is well known to Mr. Borden, who is also aware of other elements in the party who are not friendly to him. If it were left to his own personal inclination it is believed that Mr. Borden would gladly step out from a position which has too many distasteful features for him. Moreover, the political horizon does not at present show any signs of clearing, and in consequence, if the reciprocity agreement which the government has secured, it is generally admitted that another defeat is looming up under Mr. Bordens leadership at the next general election.

May Give Party Chance for New Leader.

In view of all the circumstances, the lack of a united party support, and the generally discouraging outlook, it would not be surprising if Mr. Borden decided to bring things to a head and tender his resignation as leader of the party, thus compelling the conspirators to openly show their hand and giving the party an opportunity either to select a new leader or else to voice again their endorsation of his leadership, and by demanding his continuance in the post, give a definite answer to the factions now anxious for a change.

His friends among the party who represent a large majority of the opposition members, are urging him to retain the leadership and fight the recalcitrants. They believe that the men who are most anxious for a change do not represent the best elements of the party ,and that any change now would result in bickerings and in the loss of such party prestige as Mr. Borden has been able to gain throughout the country in the past decade. Moreover, it is very doubtiul if Premier McBride would consent to give up his present position at this juncture to lead the opposition forlone hope. Mr. Borden is keeping his own counsel for the present, while listening to the advice of his friends. Indications tonight point to the offering of his resignation to a party caucus in the near future. What will happen then is problematical. Probably the majority of the party will ask Mr. Borden to retain the leadership and if he gets a sufficient assurance of loyalty and cordial support the chances are that he will bow to the demand and continue as leader.

BOTH LEGS CUT OFF BY TRAIN AT MONCTON

English Lad Thrown From Sled Under Wheels of C. P. R. Express Bound for St. John— Has Slight Chance of Recovery After Terrible Accident — Employer's Narrow Escape.

Special to The Telegraph.

Moncton, N. B., March 27—Wilfred Flemming, aged 18, a native of England, lies in Moncton hospital tonight with both feet amputated and in a critical condition as a result of being thrown under the C. P. R. train at Church street crossing this afternoon in a driving accident. Flemming was in the employ of W. A. Metzler, painter, and with his employer was driving along the road leading from St. George street to Church street, where they met the C. P. R. from Halifax coming in. The road at this point is very narrow, the horse became frightened and started to turn around with the result that the express wagon was partly upset, throwing Metzler and Flemming out close to the railway track.

Young Flemming was precipitated under the train feet first, but Metzler, having hold of the reins, was pulled clear of the track and thus escaped death. Both of Flemming's feet went under the trucks of the train and were terribly mangled.

The wagon was loaded with whitewash, and this completely covered the unfortunate lad, who presented a pitiable spectacle as he lay beside the rails with his feet practically cut off.

The injured young man was rushed to the hospital, where Drs. Coleman and Harris amputated the feet, one near the knee, the other half way between the ankle and the knee. The condition of Flemming late tonight was extremely critical, but he has a chance for his life. Mr. Metzler's escape from death or serious injury was miraculous, but it is probable he was saved by holding the reins and being dragged by the frightened horse.

Flemming, who belongs to England, came to Moncton from Cape Tormentine last December, and has been living with Austin A. Allen. He had only just obtained a job with Mr. Metzler and went to work this morning for the first time. Mr. Metzler had his left leg slightly hurt and this will confine him to the house for a few days.

FIFTEEN THOUSAND MINERS ARE INVOLVED IN COMING STRIKE

All Mining in Calgary District Will Practically Cease April 1 —C. P. R. Heavily Interested—People Laying in Large Supply.

Canadian Press.

Calgary, Alta., March 27—All plans are completed for strike for all miners in Alberta and British Columbia on April 1. The railways and towns are laying in a large stock of fuel, and Toronto jobbers have been urged to send cargoes of coal up the lakes on the first boats after navigation opens. All mining in this section will practically cease on April 1. The C. P. R. will be chiefly involved, and many large smelters. It will be the final struggle of the open shop, and mine owners are determined not to yield. Fifteen thousand miners are involved.

Making Bust of Earl Grey.

Ottawa, March 27—His excellency the governor general is giving sittings at Rideau Hall for a bust of himself which is being executed for the Ontario government. The sculptor is Hamilton MacCarthy.

Head Tax Revenue.

Ottawa, March 27—The revenue from Chinese head taxes this year will likely aggregate two million dollars, owing to the stricter enforcement of regulations. Last year the total was around $800,000.

Flemming's Talk Scares River Counties

His Confession About Valley Road Invited Defeat

Another Challenge and Acceptance for Joint Debate —Carvell Ready for Flemming—Conservative Bribery Fund—Liberals to Use No Liquor—Burden Men Confident of Victory—Liberal Forces Sanguine and Forcing the Fighting

Special to The Telegraph.

Fredericton, N. B., March 27—The amazing and imprudent admission made by Hon. Mr. Flemming in regard to the construction of the Valley railway at the Meductic meeting has been the talk of Fredericton today, and in the parishes adjoining where the daily papers circulated.

The people of this city are intensely eager for the prompt construction of the railway, but they want to see it operated by the dominion government as a part of the Intercolonial and not left to the chance ability of some company that could throw it back again upon the hands of the province at any time. One such experience has been enough for the province. The Central railway deficits are becoming greater every year, and if the Hazen government built the Valley road as a branch line from Andover to Nowhere in-Particular, there is not the slightest doubt the traffic would never pay the interest upon the bonds.

Aghast at Flemming.

There are many members of the house upon the government side who want I. C. R. operation. They do not permit their political prejudice to run riot with their reason. They feel and know that the province requires federal assistance in this great and expensive undertaking, and they stand almost aghast at the reckless statements of their provincial secretary, as published today. And the electors are rubbing their eyes and asking if it can be true that the province of New Brunswick is so strong financially that it can afford to ignore federal co-operation and federal subsidies. That is what Mr. Flemming, in his anger, at the Meductic meeting, put in plain words. His rage at the reference to his toady trip to Montreal, when the company of his own government's constituents was shunned for that of knights and railway magnates, was laughable.

Another Joint Debate.

But the end of joint meetings does not appear to be at hand. Today the provincial Liberal organizer, E. S. Carter, received the following letter from P. A. Guthrie, secretary of the Conservative executive.

"Fredericton, N. B., March 27, 1911.

"E. S. Carter, Esq., Provincial Opposition Organizer, City.

"Dear Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 24th inst., in which you state that Mr. Carvell will be pleased to meet Hon. Mr. Flemming in the Opera House on Wednesday evening, March 29 inst., there to discuss the Valley railway question, I may say that I have been instructed by our executive to advise you that Hon. Mr. Flemming will be pleased to meet Mr. Carvell on the above date.

"We will require half the time, which of course will be satisfactory to you.

"We understand that Mr. Carvell is to address a meeting at Marysville on Tuesday evening. In view of Mr. Carvell's many statements that he is willing to meet Mr. Flemming at any time and at any place, I have been instructed by our executive to say that Mr. Flemming will be pleased to meet Mr. Carvell at Marysville at his meeting there.

"As Marysville would not be so particularly interested in the Valley railway project as the St. John river sections, we would expect Mr. Carvell to deal with the general issues of the campaign and would be prepared to meet him on any and every subject relating to the administration of the public business by the present or past government of this province.

"The favor of an immediate reply is requested.

"Yours truly,
(Sgd.) "PERCY A. GUTHRIE.,
"Secretary Government Committee."

A Prompt Acceptance.

The following answer was immediately sent to Mr. Guthrie:

"Fredericton, N. B., March 27, 1911.

"P. A. Guthrie, Esq., Secretary Government Committee, City

"Dear Sir,—Yours of this date received by me at 11.50 a. m., and I am replying immediately that as soon as I can get in communication with Mr. Carvell who, I expect, will be at Southampton this afternoon, I will give you a further reply.

"I am,

"Yours very truly,
(Sgd.) "E. S. CARTER,
"Liberal Organizer."

(Continued on page 8, fifth column.)