

The School Book Slander

During the past few years the Opposition party has been seeking to create a prejudice against the Government by falsely charging that the prices paid for authorized School Books within this province are excessive, and far above what is charged in other provinces.

One Opposition speaker after another has repeated this charge, each growing bolder and more reckless in statement in every succeeding misrepresentation, culminating in the reported statement of the leader of the Opposition at Moncton a few days ago, to the effect that the prices of these Books are twice as high as necessary, and charging that they are exorbitant and beyond the prices charged in other provinces.

Seldom has this reckless leader been so completely entrapped. This deliverance puts his reputation for exaggeration and misstatement beyond that of any other public man in New Brunswick.

But it was hardly expected that he would attempt a comparison between the price paid in New Brunswick, and that paid for bankrupt stock in another Province—

The only specific comparison of prices paid here and elsewhere, is in the case of a Reader in New Brunswick costing 40 cents, which is compared by the Opposition with a Reader in Ontario, costing 15 cents. The unfairness of this is apparent, when it is known that in Ontario the present Readers are to be discontinued, and in a few months these books will be dead stock, and the dealers have made the cut in prices to save what they can, but before the cut in prices the Ontario Readers were higher than the New Brunswick ones.

The official figures made public at the Government convention in St. John last week have caused the friends of the Opposition to wonder whether a cause supported by such baseless fabrications ought to receive countenance from any fair-minded citizen.

The complete figures for British Columbia are not available by the Educational Department, but for the other provinces the following tables have been prepared, showing, in the first schedule, the prices of all books common to the different provinces, except Readers. In the second schedule the prices of Readers in the different provinces, where such information could be obtained, are shown:—

SCHEDULE I—Showing price of books named below in all provinces except British Columbia:

Books.	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	Que.	Man.	Alta.	Sask.	Ontario.
Arithmetic—								
Primary	\$ 45	\$ 40	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 40	\$ 35	\$ 35	\$ 25
Do. High School ..	50	40	30	30	50	40	35	25
English Grammar ..	35	30	35	50	40	35	35	25
History	30	50	50	60	50	50	40	50
Geography	30	45	50	75	65	65	65	65
Algebra	80	1.25	80	1.25	1.00	90	90	1.00
Geometry	75	75	1.12	1.00	1.50	1.00	1.00	75
Geometry	50	80	80	1.00	75	1.50	1.50	75
	\$4.05	\$4.85	\$5.07	\$5.25	\$5.90	\$5.35	\$5.75	\$4.78

SCHEDULE II—Showing price of Primers and Readers in six provinces:

Quebec,	Primers and Readers	\$2.88
British Columbia,	"	2.50
Manitoba,	"	2.35
Nova Scotia,	"	2.20
P. E. Island,	"	2.15
New Brunswick,	"	2.15

SCHEDULE III—Showing price of all school books above mentioned:

Manitoba, full cost,	\$8.25
Quebec, "	8.13
P. E. Island, "	7.22

Nova Scotia, 7.05
New Brunswick, full cost 6.20

Surely no party which is guilty of such flagrant misrepresentation can hope to succeed!

The above official statement shows how completely the Opposition has thrown truthfulness and fairness to the winds!

Can the electors approve of such misrepresentation? Will they not rather continue their confidence in an administration by whose careful business foresight, the School Books of New Brunswick are cheaper than in any other Province of the Dominion—The Opposition will be overwhelmed by

The School Book Slander.

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Fish Market,
25 Sydney Street
Telephone 1704.
Satisfaction Guaranteed.

Jewelry, Silver-ware, Clocks."
Watches, Watches. Watches.
Rings, Rings, Rings.
AND LOTS OF THINGS.

suitable for New Year's and holiday presents—now opening and offered at very moderate prices.

TO CASH CUSTOMERS.

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Call and see the line of DIAMOND RINGS, PEARL, OPAL, and other gems now on hand.

SIGNET AND BIRTHDAY RINGS a speciality.

W. Tremaine Gard,
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SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Steel Tugs," will be received at this office until Monday, March 2, 1908, inclusively, for the construction of Three Steel Tugs, according to a plan and specification to be seen at the offices of E.T.P. Shewen, Esq., Resident Engineer, St. John, N. B., C.E.W. Dodwell, Esq., Resident Engineer, Halifax, N. S., J. G. Sing, Esq., Resident Engineer Confederation Life Building, Toronto, Ont., Chas. Desjardins, Esq., Clerk of Works, Post Office Building, Montreal and at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa.

Tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed form supplied and signed with the actual signatures of tenderers.

Accepted cheques on a chartered bank, payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, for three thousand five hundred dollars, (\$3,500.00), for one Steel Tug, six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) for two Steel Tugs and eight thousand dollars, (\$8,000.00), for three Steel Tugs, must accompany each tender. The cheques will be forfeited if the person tendering declines the contract or fails to complete the work contracted for, and will be returned in case of non-acceptance of tender.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By Order.

FRED. GELINAS,

Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, February 1, 1908.

Newspapers will not be paid for this advertisement if they insert it without authority from the Department.

THE NICKEL

"The Runaway Horse" attracted thousands to the Nickel on Wednesday and Thursday. By special arrangement it was repeated on Friday night.

Friday and Saturday's programme. A Trip to Switzerland, Pleasant Side of a Soldier's Life, How the Suburbanite Surprised the Burglar, and Street Car Chivalry. New Songs by Miss Elise and Messrs. Beckley and Seely.

Brutal riots occurred over at Buffalo last week. Of course, the rioters were "loafers."

SEMBRICH, VAN HOOSE AND ZADORA

Notwithstanding the fact that the cost of bringing Sembrich and her associates to St. John is enormous, and more so than any previous enterprise of an entertainment nature, the prices will be by no means beyond the reach of any who may wish to be present at the big social and musical event of the decade locally. It will be worth the money to see the magnificent audience, more representative of the beauty and culture of the province, than any that has previously gathered here.

There will be five different prices, and all will be sold in advance. Those who do not wish to pay more, can hear Sembrich at a price which means only a few admissions to a moving picture show. No matter what one secures, whether an orchestra seat, a seat on the stage, standing room, or the gallery, no intelligent person, who possesses the small sum necessary, should miss this great event.

MR. PURDY NOW MEMBER OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Mr. D. J. Purdy on Wednesday afternoon was sworn in a member of the government without portfolio. But for his serious illness last fall, Mr. Purdy would have been taken into the government then. On Wednesday evening at the North End committee rooms he received many hearty congratulations and today political friends and foes express to him their satisfaction at his elevation. Mr. Purdy's promotion strengthens St. John's influence in the government.

The work of organizing the wards in the government interests was begun on Wednesday evening and the meetings in the different sections were well attended. Dr. Gorham was elected chairman for Kings ward and Dennis Burke secretary. Mr. E. Lantallum was present and made an encouraging report of his canvass.

The committee room for Victoria ward in the McLean & Holt building, City Road, had a large attendance. J. L. McAvity was elected chairman and H. Noakes secretary. Mayor Sears and Hon. D. J. Purdy attended the meetings in the North End and His Worship made a speech, telling of his canvass, saying he was meeting with every encouragement. The Mayor said it was true he had applied for a government office but the only answer he had was that his application would receive serious consideration.

DIED AT OTTAWA.

Thursday's Globe.

Mrs. Honora Burke, widow of Mr. John Burke, of St. John, died on Tuesday evening at Ottawa, where for eleven years she had made her home with her son, Mr. Denis Burke, of the Privy Council department. Deceased was in her ninety-second year but notwithstanding her great age her faculties were unimpaired, and she always evinced a lively interest in her old home. Besides her son at Ottawa, Mrs. Burke is survived by one son, in St. John—Mr. Timothy Burke, Inspector in the Inland Revenue department. Owing to absence from home on business Mr. Burke did not receive notice of his mother's death in time to permit him to reach Ottawa for the funeral, which took place this morning after Requiem Mass in St. Joseph's church.

The self-laudatory Morning Star of New Orleans piously observes that no one can read Cardinal Gibbons' article on race-suicide "without feeling his hair stand upon his head." It certainly would be startling to see it stand upon his feet.

THE FOURTH ESTATE.

Chatham World.

Mr. Armstrong, editor of the St. Andrew's Beacon, and Mr. Clarke of the St. Stephen Courier, are the only newspaper men in the running for the Legislature, both in the same county. The Borderers seem to think that the possession of exact information on public affairs and the ability to write and speak to the point are good qualifications for legislators.

TOO PUBLIC.

"Hello! Hello!" exclaimed Percy through the telephone. "Is that Miss Peachreen?"

"Yes."

"At last! This is Percy Plum. Do you know, Miss Peachreen, I have been trying for nearly an hour to get you!"

"La, me!" stuttered the voice at the other end of the wire. "You shouldn't do that over the telephone Mr. Plum!"

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McCall 10c.
Patterns 15c.

When You Buy
Here You
Get What You
Believe You
Are Getting.

See our 25c. quality
Winter Under-
vests for Ladies.
Drawers to match
25c. pair.

Cor. Duke and Charlotte Sts.
Store Open Evenings.

PERSONAL AND SOCIAL.

Miss Elizabeth M. McKechnie, who has been visiting her parents here, returned last week to the Hartford Hospital, Hartford, Conn.

Major Thomas W. Lawlor, who has been in poor health for some time but is improving, left for Bermuda on Saturday. He will spend the rest of the winter there.—Advocate, New-castle.

Mr. Eugene Connolly, of Douglas-town, bookkeeper for the Edward Sinclair Lumber Company, has gone to the United States for a short trip.

Friends will be pleased to hear that Father Morrissey is considerably improved in health since entering the Hotel Dieu hospital.—Chatham Commercial.

Mr. John F. McHugh left on Wednesday evening for Tacoma, Washington, after spending a few days with friends of this city.

Miss Irene Kiervin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kiervin, left on Wednesday for Brooklyn, to take a course in nursing in Saint Mary's Hospital. She was accompanied by her parents.

Capt. Manley, who came over two weeks ago to attend the funeral of Mrs. Sophia McPartland Doherty, returned to Halifax on Thursday. Mrs. Cullen, who came at the same time, returned last week. Miss Kate McPartland will remain here for some time.