

ST. JOHN HAS A VALUABLE EXPORT TRADE

More Than Twice That of Halifax Last Year.

THIS CITY HAS THE FREIGHT TRAFFIC

Halifax Citizen Believes Board of Trade Should Have Paid More Attention to Winter Port Situation.

Halifax, Oct. 24.—The value of the export trade passing through Halifax last year was less than half the value of the export trade through the Port of St. John. Last year the export trade of Halifax was \$15,500,000, while the export trade of St. John for the year was \$35,000,000 or more.

St. John has a big lead over Halifax in the matter of freight traffic, but there does not appear to be any particular jealousy among Halifax people on this account. Halifax certainly expects to hold the fast passenger and mail services to the limit of its facilities; and it is just as confident that St. John will continue to hold the great bulk of the heavy freight traffic.

But the C. P. R. officials have said that St. John is the best port, and if they had their choice they would land mails and passengers at St. John. It was said to a member of the Board of Trade of Halifax actively interested in port affairs.

"Probably they said that when they wanted St. John to do something for them," was the answer. "The C. P. R. has dispensed much 'soft sawder' to the people of St. John and their actions speak louder than words. If your St. John Board of Trade and your citizens had given closer study to the winter port questions, perhaps they wouldn't have got so excited. One of your papers usually noted for its fairness and the accuracy of its information, recently stated that Halifax hadn't a berth that could accommodate the Empress boats; that shows there must be considerable misapprehension in St. John in regard to Halifax. As a matter of fact Halifax has docked the biggest boat running to Boston, the President Lincoln, which is nearly 5,000 tons larger than the Empress boats. St. John may yet get a considerable share of the mail and passenger business, but the chances are that the port which offers the shortest sea voyage will get the cream of both the passenger and mail traffic. Halifax expects that when the new terminals at Point Pleasant are completed many of the big New York boats will call here. The New York liners would only have to loiter about two hours to come into Halifax and passengers for Chicago and points west of there could reach their destination sixteen hours by way of Halifax, instead of by way of New York, and sixteen hours is an important matter to western business men, though it might be immaterial to tourists except in the way of shortening the ocean voyage."

A longshoreman of Halifax speaking of the shipping situation said that while the mail boats "turning" at Halifax would make disbursements that would affect various kinds of business, longshoremen would sooner see some big freight boats, such as go to St. John, loading and discharging their cargoes at Halifax. One of the larger freighters running to St. John provides as much work for longshoremen as two or three Empress boats.

ROYAL PARTY AT CAPITAL

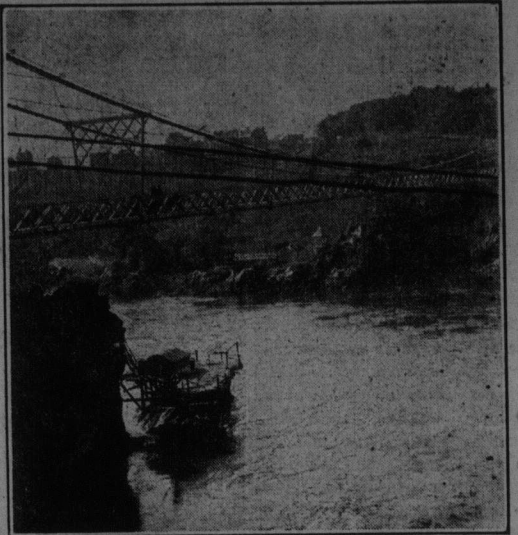
Duke and Duchess of Connaught and Princess Patricia Given Warm Welcome at Ottawa.

Ottawa, Oct. 26.—Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and the Princess Patricia, with the royal suite, were given an undemonstrative yet warm welcome home at six o'clock Saturday evening by nearly all the members of the cabinet council and their wives, a few other prominent people and a big crowd of the general public. The C. P. R. special train of nine coaches steamed into the central station on schedule time.

When Their Royal Highnesses alighted, they shook hands with the cabinet ministers and their wives and others. Contrary to reports, the Duchess was in excellent health, and for a few minutes she and the Princess Patricia held animated conversation with Mrs. Borden, wife of the Premier. Mrs. Borden was with the royal party on their trip from Quebec. Their Royal Highnesses and suite left Ottawa for England on March 19th last, owing to the severe illness of the Duchess.

Shortly after their arrival here the

IN AND AROUND ST. JOHN



View of the bridges, showing the site of the new C. P. R. bridge.

TRAIN WRECKERS ON THEIR TRIAL

Preliminary Examination in Newcastle of Warren Preston and James and Joseph Collins, Charged with Causing Wreck Near Jones' Crossing Finished Saturday—Judgment Reserved—Prisoners Allowed Bail.

Special to The Standard. Newcastle, N. B., Oct. 25.—The preliminary trial of Warren Preston, and James and Joseph Collins, charged with causing the wreck at Jones' crossing on the 16th inst., ended today.

Town Marshal Adam Dickson swore that, with Intercolonial Police Inspector Thomas Trenholm, he had interviewed Preston at Mr. Vye's at Wilson's Point, between eleven and one o'clock one night shortly before the wreck.

Preston seemed excited when Trenholm asked him what he knew about the wreck. He broke down, commenced to cry, hit his hand on the table, and said, "Yes, I'll tell the truth." He started to say something, when Vye interfered, and said something to Preston, and the latter turned round and said he knew nothing about the accident.

Hon. L. J. Tweede, counsel for Collins, and Mr. Whalen, for Preston, objected to the magistrate allowing Dickson's evidence, but were overruled.

Resuming, the witness said that Preston told them he had been across the river on the night of the seventh instant, with the Collins boys. They had come to Newcastle during the day and had returned in the evening, meeting James Howe near Sinclair's mill, where one Collins left them, and he did not see the latter till later that night, meeting him again near Derby Junction. The express had then gone by. Young, the watchman at Derby Junction, had told him and also

warned them against another train about due.

James and Joseph Collins had gone home with him that night across the Southwest bridge. Witness had held out no inducements to Preston to confess except that when Preston had said he'd tell the truth, witness said that it would be better for him to do so.

Here Mr. Whalen moved to have all Dickson's evidence struck out because of this inducement of Constable Dickson. The objection was overruled. Witness further swore that Preston had admitted that he and Collins had a square face of gin and a flask and had a drink while stopping with Young. This interview had been on the ninth or tenth instant. He had arrested Preston on the tenth or eleventh. He had a warrant for him on his first visit to Vye's, but had not served it.

This afternoon Trenholm corroborated Dickson's evidence.

Montgomery Jones testified that he had seen Preston and both Collinses on the seventh at Nelson going towards Chatham. Conductor Stevenson and Driver Thompson gave the evidence against Preston and James Collins as last week against Joseph Collins.

Mr. Lawlor moved to commit, and Mr. Tweede to dismiss for lack of evidence. Magistrate Malby reserved his decision and will ask the advice of the attorney general. He admitted the accused to \$2000 bail, \$1000 personal and two sureties of \$500 each. James and Joseph Collins found bail this afternoon.

British Freight Steamer Sowell Bound from Savannah to Havre Has Terrible Experience—Will Flood Hold.

Halifax, Oct. 26.—The British freight steamer Sowell, bound from Savannah for Havre, France, put in here today with her cargo of cotton on fire.

On Friday morning when 389 miles southeast of Halifax, fire was discovered in fore hold. The fire had gained such headway that the deck was almost at white heat, but the engineers succeeded in cutting holes through which steam pipes were inserted.

There was a gale of wind blowing and quite a sea running, and the steering gear became disabled. The ship for a time being helpless. When the gear was got in shape again, Captain Evans headed his ship for Halifax.

LESTER TO TAKE BACK SEAT SAYS MINISTER

Right Hon. Herbert Asquith Speaks Out Plainly on Home Rule.

FORCE OF ARMS MAY PROVE NECESSARY.

Prime Minister of Great Britain Hopes Difficulty Will Be Diplomatically Settled—Order Will Be Enforced.

Through Reuters Ottawa Agency. London, Oct. 25.—Right Hon. Herbert Asquith, prime minister, addressed an enthusiastic meeting of his constituents of Ladybank, Pife, Scotland, this evening. He dealt exclusively with the question of Home Rule, and emphasized that the government intended to make use of the Parliament Act in order to give Liberal legislation something approaching an equal chance with their opponents. The government, he said, had declared in favor of Home Rule, when they had an overwhelming majority over all parties, and the last election was fought with the knowledge that Home Rule would come next to the passing of the Parliament Act. It would have been the grossest breach of public faith to put off this legislation.

Mr. Asquith affirmed that the government still believed that as the bill would stand the legislation which it would bring into existence, even if it had the disposition, which the government did not believe it to have, would not and could not have the power to be guilty of acts of opposition against the minority. He pointed out that the Lords had not attempted to modify, amend, or improve the bill, or that the Lords had not attempted to the loyalty and self-sacrifice of the Irish party in the House of Commons. He added:

"You are often told that I am Redmond's subservient tool (laughter), but that he is mine. There is just as much truth in the one accusation as in the other,—and that is none at all. The Prime Minister and Nationalists (Cheers)."

He said that the Nationalists in a common cause in the justice and policy of which we both believe. (Cheers). Continued on Page Two.

SHOCKING TRAGEDY

Augustine Carter, on Hunting Trip, Accidentally Shot by Younger Brother—Death Came Soon After.

Special to The Standard. Bathurst, N. B., Oct. 25.—A sad shooting accident occurred at North Tatagouche yesterday afternoon when Augustine Carter, aged 30, married, was shot, and almost instantly killed by the accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of Bernard Carter, a younger brother of the victim.

The men were on a hunting trip and were climbing a fence when the trigger caught on some projection and the charge entered the breast of Augustine Carter. He collapsed at once, but his brother put his inert body home where he died a short time later. An inquest is considered unnecessary.

PREFERRED PICNICS TO CASTING BALLOTS

Rome, Oct. 26.—General elections were held throughout Italy today. The disorders were the cause of a lower turnout, although one person was killed and many were wounded. Numerous arrests were made in various quarters.

The balloting was light, because, on account of spring-like weather the people preferred to go on excursions rather than to the polls. Results of the elections will not be definitely known until late Monday, but already the government is assured of a large majority.

Tomato Wholesale Price is Reduced. Toronto, Oct. 25.—The long tomato season and the abundance of the crop has caused the canneries to lower their prices 1 1/2 cents per dozen cans. This, however, will have little effect on the cost of living as the retail price will remain the same.

THE ELECTION IN MEXICO A FARCE; POLL FEW VOTES

But Ten Thousand Out of Eighty Thousand Eligible Voters Went to Polls—Expects that Congress Will Declare the Election Void—Huerta Doubles Strength of Army.

Mexico City, Oct. 26.—At the close of the elections today the indications were that an efficient voter had been cast to constitute legal choice for the presidency to succeed General Victoriano Huerta. No official announcement was made tonight, but it was unofficially estimated, judging from the results in the capital, where it was expected the vote would be up to the average, that less than 10,000 of the 80,000 eligible voters in the Republic went to the polls. It would be no surprise if Congress, the members of which also were voted for today, declared the election void when that body is organized and revises the returns.

The leaders of the Catholic party claimed a long lead, although they were unable to estimate the number of votes polled for their candidates, Federico Gamboa and General Rawson. If this claim is correct, it is generally thought that General Felix Diaz and Senor Requena ran second. The Liberal candidates, Manuel Calero and Flores Magon had the most votes at their polling places, their constituents being obliged to write their names in blank ballots.

President Huerta did not vote. He spent the day at his Popotla suburban home. A decree will be issued by General Huerta tomorrow increasing the army from 85,000 men, its alleged present number, to 150,000. General Huerta proposed such an increase some time ago, but the congress which he dissolved limited him to 80,000. Since the deputies and senators are not subject to the election provisions governing the presidential election, it is said tonight the choice for congress is assured. It is assumed, on the showing so far as known, the Catholic party will secure a majority in both chamber and senate.

No Disorder. There was no semblance of disorder in any quarter of the city. A few patrols were on the streets, but neither the police nor the army had any unusual duties to perform. The polling places opened at nine o'clock in the morning and remained closed until noon, when the attendants closed the booths until three in the afternoon, for the mid-day meal. They were re-opened at three and closed again at five o'clock.

Manuel Calero, the Liberal candidate, who was once ambassador at Washington, did not vote. Instead he took his family early in the day into the country. Federico Gamboa, the candidate of the Catholic party, on the other hand, cast his ballot for Senor Calero. Neither of these candidates cared to express an opinion as to whether a sufficient number of ballots had been deposited to make the election effective. Few of those who went to the polls took the trouble to vote for either senator or deputy.

WILL COMPLETELY CONTROL GRAIN MOVEMENT IN EAST

Grain Commission May Take Steps Which Will Extend its Jurisdiction to Grain Shipments East of Port Arthur.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Ont., Oct. 26.—The lack of jurisdiction over the grain movement in eastern Canada by the Grain Commission has been proven to be a great handicap to complete success in the work of that body, and has given rise in the West to an agitation to extend the jurisdiction of that body over the eastern section with the same powers as are exercised west of Port Arthur. For jurisdiction of that body over the eastern section with the same powers as are exercised west of Port Arthur, besides one at Montreal controlled by the horber board, and a large one under construction at Quebec. It is proposed to place these government elevators and the control of private business and the general control of the movement of grain in the head of the lakes to the seaboard under the grain commission. It is believed that with the erection of greater elevator capacity in the east and the extension of the jurisdiction of the grain commission over the eastern section of the movement of grain will be attended by as great a success in the east as it has been in the west, and the prospect that this aspect of the proposal is likely to come under the consideration of the government in the near future.

SUFFRAGETTES BIG BLAZE

Government Now Capitulates in Releasing the Violent Offenders Under "Cat and Mouse Act."

London, Oct. 25.—The government was ordered to capitulate today in the matter of the announcement made by the home secretary on October 9th that suffragettes imprisoned for crimes of violence would not be given their freedom under the "Cat and Mouse" Act. On that date the home secretary refused to release Miss May Richardson, who was arrested on October 10 on the charge of arson. Miss Richardson refused food from the moment of her arrest, and for a few days her condition became so serious that her release was ordered today.

Mr. Wilson's previous announcement the home secretary declared that the act would be applied only to minor suffragette offenders, whose crimes did not include acts of serious violence.

From three to five, officials, one of whom was designated "president" were in attendance at each polling place. These officials represented the various parties and assisted in the preparation of the ballot when necessary, but offered no coercion or suggestion as to how the applicant should vote.

The election officials appeared to be a representative class of citizens, clerks, small business men, railroad railroad employees, and shopkeepers of average intelligence. So far as could be ascertained no government employes served in this capacity.

Booths on Streets. The polling places, of which there were said to be 928, averaging one to a city block, were located in the entrances of buildings, generally, but in some instances, were set up on the sidewalks or the corners of public squares. Each had a table on which were spread the tickets of the various candidates. From these the voter made his selection, signed, folded and delivered it to the president, who deposited it in the presence of the voter in the ballot box.

The ballot box consisted of any sort of receptacle, from a pasteboard shoe box to a plush covered jewel casket, or a glass jar borrowed from a neighboring drug store. There was no secrecy about the voting. All the world could look on and observe which ballot was selected.

As the vote was deposited the name was checked on the registration list previous prepared through personal visits of a designated official to the houses in his jurisdiction. It was not until the voting of the eligible citizen to register; his name was on the list if he was entitled by residence, age or other requirements to cast a vote.

Manuel Calero, the Liberal candidate, who was once ambassador at Washington, did not vote. Instead he took his family early in the day into the country.

Federico Gamboa, the candidate of the Catholic party, on the other hand, cast his ballot for Senor Calero. Neither of these candidates cared to express an opinion as to whether a sufficient number of ballots had been deposited to make the election effective. Few of those who went to the polls took the trouble to vote for either senator or deputy.

GAIN VICTORY IN MONCTON

Government Now Capitulates in Releasing the Violent Offenders Under "Cat and Mouse Act."

Moncton, Oct. 26.—Fire broke out this evening in the clothing store conducted by Harry Wilson, near the corner of Main and Bedford streets, and did thousands of dollars' damage to his stock before being drowned out.

Mr. Wilson estimates his damage at nine thousand with insurance \$6300. The building owned by F. C. Jones was damaged to the extent of about one thousand dollars' loss covered by insurance. Other losses were slight. How the fire originated is a mystery.

would be applied only to minor suffragette offenders, whose crimes did not include acts of serious violence.

PREMIERS OF PROVINCES AT THE CAPITAL

First Session of Inter-provincial Conference to be Held Today.

MINIMUM REPRESENTATION WILL BE ASKED BY EAST

Also an Increased Federal Subsidy to Compensate for Boundary Extensions of the Larger Western Provinces.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Oct. 26.—The Ontario and Nova Scotia delegations to the provincial conference arrived in Ottawa today. Sir James Whitney, Attorney General Foy and Provincial Treasurer Lucas from Ontario and Premier Murray, Hon. O. T. Daniels and Hon. R. H. MacGregor from Nova Scotia.

Sir Lomer Gouin and the other Quebec delegates and Sir Richard McBride of British Columbia will be on hand for the opening conference in the morning. Members of the Dominion government have already met the delegates so far here. The federal government will not be represented at the conference which is a purely inter-provincial gathering.

The chief subject now in sight is the demand of the smaller provinces in the east for a fixed minimum representation in the Dominion parliament and for an increased federal subsidy to offset the extension of the boundaries of the other provinces.

There is also some prospect of an attempt by the representatives of the Scott and Sifton governments in Saskatchewan and Alberta to give prominence to the political issue involved in the federal control of the public domain in their provinces. The conference will last half the week and may go longer. The conference will, of course, be private and at the conclusion a statement of the recommendations agreed upon will be formally submitted to the Dominion government.

Premier Borden will entertain the delegates to a dinner at the Chateau Laurier on Tuesday.

MRS. ATKINSON ASKS SUPREME COURT HEARING

William Maddin Charged with Complicity in Murder is Innocent—Much Interest in Cases.

Sydney, N. S., Oct. 25.—The hearing of Mrs. Atkinson and William Maddin, on the charge of complicity in the alleged murder of B. S. Atkinson was concluded on Saturday. The charge against Mr. Maddin was dismissed. Mrs. Atkinson, at her own request, was bound over to the Supreme Court.

"I submit there is no evidence here to connect either of my client with these charges," said counsel for the defence, "and I would ask that they be discharged, but I am overruled by my client, Mrs. Atkinson, and I have to ask that she be bound over to the supreme court. Public feeling has been worked up in this matter and Mrs. Atkinson desires a full investigation."

Then I must say, said Stipendiary Hearn, "that I cannot see any evidence against Mr. Maddin at all." Crown Prosecutor Hearn submitted that Mr. Maddin had paid a certain sum of money, ten dollars, to Hayes through Calvin Stevens, who had endeavored to obstruct the investigation, and had made himself prominent at the coroner's inquest in endeavoring to prove Mr. Atkinson's death to be an accident.

Stipendiary Hearn said "the involuntary exclamation of Mrs. Atkinson made in the presence of Stevens, suit himself, it is your own business, pointed to the transaction being a private one."

The case against Mr. Maddin was dismissed.

Stipendiary Hearn then bound Mrs. Atkinson over to the supreme court on her own recognizance of \$5,000, and surety to the amount of \$2,500.

LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE. Special to The Standard. Fredericton, Oct. 25.—Rev. W. M. Rochester, of Toronto, general secretary of the Lord's Day Alliance, preached at the Methodist church this morning and at St. Paul's Presbyterian church this evening. This afternoon he addressed a mass meeting of the city Sunday schools at Brunswick street United Baptist church.