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Semi-Weekly Telegraph and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 26, 1912.

A DISCOVERY

The Standard has discovered in the Toronto Telegram what it regards as a good device by which to divert attention from Mr. Borden's cabinet troubles. The "discovery" which the Standard joyfully adopts from the Toronto Conservative organ is that the resignation of Hon. Mr. Monk is a dreadful blow to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. So far as the Telegram's argument can be followed it seems to be that Mr. Borden is well rid of Mr. Monk and that if—note the "if"—Sir Wilfrid Laurier now espouses the cause of Mr. Monk it will only remain for Mr. Borden to appeal to the country, run another flag election, and be returned in triumph.

All this is very pretty; but it ignores the fact that it is Mr. Borden who is Premier, and that it is his Minister of Public Works who has resigned because of a radical difference of opinion over what Conservatives regard as the leading issue of the day. Not only is Mr. Monk stepping out, but Messrs. Pelletier and Nantel, and other Nationalists to whom Mr. Borden largely owed his victory of a year ago, are bound to follow the Minister of Public Works if they are true to the wild pledges they made in Quebec, during the campaign in which they denounced Sir Wilfrid Laurier as attempting to drag the French-Canadians into Britain's foreign wars.

The Standard affects to forget that the campaign against Sir Wilfrid in Quebec was made chiefly on the ground that he was "plunging Canada into militarism." As Mr. Borden is posing today as a more "advanced" Imperialist than Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and as it is the Conservative cabinet in which there is a split, the effort of the Telegram and of its admiring St. John follower to transfer the trouble to the Liberal camp certainly has its amusing features.

What Mr. Monk will do is known. What Mr. Borden will do is as yet but vaguely announced by his newspapers, and far from definitely announced by himself. After Mr. Borden has told the House of Commons and the country what he proposes to do in the matter of Imperial defence it will be time enough for Sir Wilfrid Laurier to announce his own policy in the matter. To try him and find him guilty in advance of the event merely represents a transparent Conservative editorial attempt to lead public attention away from the beginning of the disruption of the "unholy alliance." The play is but beginning and the whole country is watching.

THE ASSASSIN AND THE COURSE OF HISTORY

Colonel Roosevelt has happily escaped being the fourth president or ex-president of the United States who has had the martyr's crown thrust upon him. Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley died in harness, the victims of cranks who were moved by a mad impulse to kill; Roosevelt happily escaped without great injury from the man with the homicidal mania and the deadly weapon.

Assassins have profoundly influenced the course of history. It is not that they have made martyrs, but that they have prevented their victims from finishing their work. In the reconstruction period following the war with the South, no man was found to take the place of Lincoln, and his loss was irreparable. One of the last declarations of Lincoln was that he had not willingly planted a thorn in any man's bosom, but the politicians who took charge at his death planted thorns all over the country and did little besides. The thorns still grow, and the passion and foolishness in evidence at their planting destroyed much of the work of that constructive statesman.

More important in its influence on history than the assassination of Lincoln was the act of the obscure fanatic in the Netherlands who killed William the Silent in 1584. The history of the rise of the Netherland Republic was at the same time the biography of William. His death rendered union of all the Netherlands into one republic hopeless, and the assassin's hand achieved more than all the wiles which Spanish or Italian statesmanship could teach, or all the armies which Spain or Italy could muster. Gerard, who shot him—a thin-bearded, undersized, obscure, run-away clerk—received from William's charity the fund which he used to purchase the pistol that did the killing. He bought it from a soldier, and the soldier stabbed himself to the heart when he learned to what purpose the pistol had been put.

The Netherlands had come to think with the brain of William and to act with his hand; at his death it was helplessly paralyzed. The people trusted the character of their "Father William." So long as he lived he was the guiding star of the nation, and when he died the little children cried in the streets. Never was a more extensive, unaffected, and legitimate sorrow felt at the death of any human being. The rock in the ocean, "tranquil amid the raging billows," was the emblem by which his friends expressed their sense of his firmness. He lived and died, not for himself but for his country: "God pity this poor people!" were his dying words.

The sentence executed on the assassin sounds horrible today, and no less horrible was the rejoicing of Philip of Spain over the deed. "If it had only been done two years earlier," observed that plodding invalid, "much trouble would have been spared me; but it is better late than never." It was decreed that the right hand of Gerard should be burned off with a red-hot iron, that his flesh should be torn from his bones with pinchers in six different places, his heart torn from his bosom and flung in his face, and finally his head taken off. The sentence was literally executed, and the victim bore all suffering with the most astonishing fortitude. The judges were so amazed at his unshaken firmness that they believed him supported by witchcraft. His family enjoyed the bounty of Philip for many generations.

The leaders in a modern republic are particularly liable to the acts of the crazed homicide. When Wilson is accused of seeking to cripple American industry, a crazy man out of a job may well be found who will let the statement prey upon his mind, and who will rush forth to kill. But there is nothing to prevent such lamentable crimes. Free discussion is absolutely necessary in a democracy, and an irresponsible creature may at any time be moved to go forth to kill the man against whom free discussion has aroused his malignant activity. The discussion will continue so long as free institutions exist, and the leader must take the risk involved in his service to his country. There is no defence against the man affected with homicidal mania. He is at any moment liable to aim his weapon at the brightest star in the political firmament. Something of the martyr's quality is essential for the men who aspire to great leadership. Fortunately, the race has never been so poor as not to produce a goodly company of men ready to wear the martyr's crown, if the cause they espouse stands to benefit by their death.

MORE ABOUT ROADS

The recent activity of the automobile men in connection with the roads of the province is to prove more than a flash in the pan. Announcement is made of another meeting Tuesday evening, and this, apparently, is to be followed by a widespread organization and a sustained campaign throughout the province, the object of which is to bring about concerted action, not among owners of motor cars only, but on the part of all who are interested in having the roads of the province made good, and kept good.

There is no more important question before the public, and it is the part of wisdom not to leave the agitation until the spring months when the roads are particularly bad, but when, perhaps, the Legislature will have finished its next session.

If New Brunswick is to have good roads the question of road making must be taken out of politics and subjected to business-like treatment. Certainly half of the money expended on the roads of the province at present is wasted. Probably this is a very conservative estimate. Moreover, it seems probable that the revenue for road making not only can, but must be, considerably increased in the near future. It should, therefore, be possible to decide upon, and finance without great difficulty, a scheme for permanent roads, looking to the construction of a considerable extent of first class highways in the province year by year, together with provision for the proper upkeep of such highways once they are finished.

This ought not to be a task beyond the wisdom of our Legislature, but a strong manifestation of public opinion in various sections of the province will have the result of preventing delay by convincing the representatives of each county that the people who pay the taxes have made up their minds that the time has come for a radical departure in the matter of road construction and road management.

We are sometimes told that a feeling of hostility exists between the automobile owners and the farmers, but, as a matter of fact, these are the two classes of persons in the province who are most deeply interested in the matter of good roads, and friendly and united action by them is essential and can be brought about if the right kind of campaign is inaugurated.

WHAT IS YOUR OBJECT IN LIFE?

Turning wearily from the clamor of politics and the strife of politicians, Mr. A. C. Benson, C. V. O., a son of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, asks this question, which must appeal to thoughtful men everywhere:

"What then, we may ask ourselves, is the real life that we are aiming at, which our political institutions exist to secure?"

Mr. Benson treated this subject in an article he contributed this month to Public Opinion. In answering his own question he tells us that the object of any community is, and must be, "to prevent waste, to see that no one is unnecessarily rich, and that no one is unduly poor; to reward merit by comfort; to induce men to be disinterested, public-spirited, inventive; to give equal chances to all; to diminish crime and vice, and, most of all, to increase happiness. That is what we are aiming at, or ought to be."

Such an answer indicates that Mr. Benson thinks along unusual lines; but are they not sound enough? He asks us what is the ideal life for the citizen of a community. The citizen, he tells us, ought to be made healthy, neighborly, good-humored, upright, self-restrained, orderly. "He ought to have a definite piece of work to do, in order to support himself, and to support also those members of the community, the children, the invalided, the frail, the aged, who cannot do any work. These will always have to be supported, so that all toilers will be obliged to do more work than is actually needed for their own support. But toil ought never to fall into mere and hopeless drudgery. Everyone ought to have leisure and to be able to use it. Work ought to be enjoyable and enjoyed; and, besides that, there ought to be an enjoyment of beautiful and leisurely things. That is a simple programme, and yet how far we are from realizing it!"

Mr. Benson considers, then, the chief obstacles in the way of such a life, and he finds them to be disease, mental deficiency, taints of every kind, together with pride, combativeness, ostentation, selfish disregard of others, greedy grasping at things we cannot use. Such tendencies make people eager to claim and to possess, but unwilling to share, happiness.

As a cure for these tendencies Mr. Benson proposes a real love of simplicity. He tells us the way back to normal health of mind and body is to cease to desire rooms which we do not use, furniture that is without purpose, ornaments which are merely in the way. If these things were not demanded, the workers who now produce them would set about producing the things that are really necessary. At a time when many people believe pride and ostentation are more than ever busy, Mr. Benson says he perceives some signs of our progress in reasonable and humane directions. He mentions the diminution of cruelty, and the wonderful orderliness of the whole nation compared with one hundred years ago. In this he sees proof of a growing appreciation of the rights of others and a desire for peace and good-will. He says a good word for education, of course, but at the end of it we come upon another thought-provoking sentence:

"The curriculum of elementary schools is, of course, a grotesque thing, because it aims at culture and information rather than at the direct arts of living; but the kindly discipline, the cleanliness, the care provided for children in impressionable years by the elementary schools are all of immense worth."

For those who have to do with primary education, surely there is a suggestion in that.

The real life, which we must keep in view, he reminds us, is "the life which insists on work as a duty and yet allows a real margin of leisure; the cultivation of a taste for all beautiful and interesting things, the recognition of the right of all children to be born free from inherited taint. It is on such principles as these that civil and social virtue are based; for such virtue is essentially the perception that duty does not merely consist in keeping oneself strong and self-restrained and comfortable, but is bound up with the welfare of all citizens as well."

He suggests that the new democracy is shaping itself on these lines and that they are not merely a vague ideal but rather gradually acquiring a living force.

In the same issue there is a striking article along similar lines, entitled "Things Worth Striving For," by Sir H. H. Johnston, G. C. M. G. Like Mr. Benson, this author begins with an impatient review of the partizan politics of the hour, including a rebuke for those who are "engaged at this moment in endeavoring to block" an understanding between the opposing parties in Ireland. There is, he thinks, a growing feeling of disgust in the minds of the laboring and professional classes with our system of party government, and he looks forward to a quiet revolution at the polls which will lead "to a business-like government by reasonable men, a system which shall cast to the winds shibboleths and precedents, time-honored, time-wasting nonsense, log-rolling, and political corruption, and concentrate the elected representatives of the nation on practical legislation. Under such a revolution of feeling it ought to be easy and cheap for an H. G. Wells, a Bernard Shaw, a General Booth, a Hubert Parry, an Alma Tadema (were he still living), a Ronald Ross, a Hensley Henson, a James Buckland, an E. D. Morel, a Baden-Powell, a Flinders Petrie, or a Sidney Webb to get into and remain in a Parliament really intended to produce wise laws for the promotion of health and happiness, knowledge and achievements in art and industry."

He wants votes for women, better housing of the poorer classes, and the protection and encouragement of motherhood. He warns his countrymen that if the British race is to keep within sight of the Teutonic peoples, and more, if "it is to go on peopling new lands across the sea, life must be made easier, happier, healthier, and cheaper for the breeding stock among us, for the men and women of the peasantry, the artisan and mechanic, the soldier and sailor, policeman, factory girl, domestic servant, game-keeper, railway employe, clerk, gardener, small shopkeeper and farmer."

He demands a good understanding with Germany and Austria, the practical education of the youth of both sexes, freedom of religion from the superstitions of past centuries. And he says:

"We want our churches to be full of pictures, temples of beauty, reverent storehouses of knowledge; our country to be studded with public parks, communal forests, county paradises; our towns to be replete with historical museums, theatres, concert-rooms, galleries of good art in sculpture and painting, gymnastic establishments, swimming baths, bandstands, botanical and zoological gardens; everything that can interest the mind through the eye and ear, and gratify and educate the senses without harm to the moral stamina.

"We want, in short, an organized pursuit of happiness, open without restriction to all who will do their share of the world's work and who will obey the laws of a really Christian community. We must all labor to derive the utmost benefit from the little world on which we live; for our own sakes and for those who are to come after us, to whom, when our life's work is done, we hand on the torch."

To find two writers of eminence discussing such lines of advance at this time should be regarded as a hopeful sign. Certainly there should be more talk, more thought, more action in regard to these things, and less about most of the hundred-and-one other subjects which disturb the Anglo-Saxon world and which interfere with our people in what should be a conscious pursuit of sanity in thinking and in living, comfort, leisure, enjoyment in work, hopefulness, and other things of good report.

THE COST

Four million dollars a day—that, approximately, is the price which the world is paying, not for war and preparation for war, but as legacies of wars past and gone. Realizing that it is difficult to cause the average man to realize what this means, a writer in Toronto Saturday Night employs this striking illustration:

"How on earth could the cost of living be low when the living or the wealth earned by two or three Canadas is burned up as quickly as it appears. How could you posibly keep down the high cost of living in the Canadian West, for instance, if every grain of wheat were burned up as quickly as it was harvested? The illustration is entirely fair. The world literally or figuratively burns up, of wheat, butter, eggs, houses, clothing and other wealth, many millions of dollars' worth every twenty-four hours and never receives from it one cent's return. It simply creates it and then wastes it. The necessities of life having been made scarcer to the extent of several millions of dollars' worth per day means that those which are left are made dearer by just so many millions per day. It is cause and effect."

The war debt of the world, according to President Jordan, of Leland Stanford University, now amounts to $37,000,000,000. This sum has nothing to do with present preparation, but represents the amounts borrowed and not yet paid back. The annual interest charge at four per cent. would be $1,480,000,000 or about $4,000,000 a day.

The writer in Toronto Saturday Night, continuing his illustration, asks us to remember that the meaning of this expenditure is that if one million stout, healthy men in Canada should work for 365 days in the year, and should each produce four dollars a day, their combined earnings would only equal the interest on the money borrowed for war purposes by the nations of the world, and nothing would be left to feed or clothe them, so that the services of a smaller army would be necessary for those purposes.

But besides paying the interest on war debts contracted long ago, the world must find $2,500,000,000 a year for current expenditure on war and preparation for war at the present day, which involves raising $7,000,000 a day for 365 days a year. And the sum is continually mounting.

It is true that preparation for war, costly as it is, is much cheaper than war itself; but our civilization is mocked by the assumption that in our day the leading nations of the world, composed of individuals who do not hate one another, who do not love bloodshed, who have difficulty enough in earning a livlihood, cannot agree to banish from the earth the old process of settling disputes by throwing untold blood and treasure into the the scale. Norman Angell calls war "the great delusion," asserting that it does not give the verdict to the just cause necessarily, and seldom settles anything. While preparation is still necessary to prevent injustice being inflicted upon any country, he believes in preparation; but he is seeking to persuade the world that this folly has lasted long enough, and undoubtedly he has caught the ear of an immense army of thinkers who prefer the plowshare to the sword.

SHEEP AND DOGS

In order to correct some misunderstanding in the country districts of the province in regard to the law for the protection of sheep from dogs, it may be said that the Legislature, at the session of 1909, repealed Section 9 of Chapter 97 of the Consolidated Statutes, 1903, and enacted the following section in place thereof:

"Any person may kill (a) any dog which he sees pursuing, worrying or wounding any sheep or lamb; or (b) any dog giving tongue and terrifying any sheep or lamb on any farm; or (c) any dog which any person finds straying upon his or her property at any time; provided always that no dog so straying either securely muzzled, or accompanied by any person owning or possessing or having the charge or care of said dog, shall be so killed unless there is reasonable apprehension that such dog if not killed is likely to pursue, worry, wound or terrify sheep or lambs then on said farm."

The announcement was made recently that the provincial government had appointed Mr. J. A. Telfer as an official to promote the sheep raising industry in New Brunswick. Mr. Telfer some time ago established a sheep farm in Kings county, and is said to have had considerable experience in Ontario, and he should, therefore, be able to do much good in his new sphere of activity, if the government will give him proper support and the requisite funds.

Dominion government experts who have inspected New Brunswick's agricultural districts with an eye to their possibilities for sheep raising, and who have talked with our farmers, have always insisted that this province is exceptionally well adapted for sheep raising, but have always encountered among our farmers the discouraging assertion that the dog nuisance makes sheep farming a hazardous and unprofitable venture.

The law which gives permission to kill trespassing dogs ought to be well known and understood in every parish, and there should be provided also some quick form of adequate compensation for owners whose sheep have been destroyed.

If the province is to experience an expansion in agricultural production, a great deal of the land now abandoned or only partially used may well be converted into sheep farms, by our own people, or by men from other places who are convinced of the profit of this line of farming in New Brunswick. Mr. Telfer will do a work of great value if he succeeds in showing the farmers that the dog nuisance can be abated, and that sheep raising by men of small capital is more profitable than most other lines of farming.

THE SPLIT AT OTTAWA

The Conservative Ottawa Citizen had early news of the resignation of Mr. Monk. In an editorial written after Mr. Monk's intention to resign became known, the Citizen said that the news created "doubt as to the utlimate result of a division, of which this is all too apparently the tip of the wedge." "It is understood," the Citizen said further, "that certain divergent elements were united under the one party roof, but thus far there had been a unity of spirit and action which prophesied a reality of fusion in a common cause. The action of the Minister of Public Works in dissent shows that in all probability no policy could be formulated which would be satisfactory to all parts and all parties."

Assuming that Mr. Monk's resignation was at hand, as has since proved to be the case, the Citizen went on to say that the extent to which the division might spread must be for the present largely a matter for conjecture. And it added:

"It is the appearance of the Nationalist element, and the first indication of a division that seemed inevitable. It has been a matter of wonder that Mr. Monk should have fitted into the Cabinet with such ease, and there were many who used the fact as the basis of imputing inferior motives. But it is evident that he still has strong opinions of his own, even stronger than is indicated by his desire to submit an emergency contribution to the people. It is at least to his credit that in the hour of grave decision he should dare to take his stand, even though it cost him his portfolio."

In many quarters Mr. Monk is receiving, from both Liberal and Conservative journals, recognition for his refusal to forego his principles in order to retain his portfolio. It is pointed out that his retirement makes the position of his Nationalist colleagues very difficult. Messrs. Pelletier and Nantel, and most of their followers in the House, told the electors of Quebec that there would be no Canadian navy, and no contribution to Imperial naval defence. On many occasions they said that any proposed action would be submitted to the people before it was carried out. Mr. Borden's policy will show that they were wrong. Mr. Monk resigns; they remain. It is an interesting situation which may well have grave political developments.

REAL REMEDIES AND OTHERS

A remarkable summary showing how the United States government has not curbed the trusts, but has helped them, if inadvertently, is given by the Chicago Tribune:

Standard Oil Company—Wages of labor the same as before dissolution. The price of stock has advanced 80 per cent and the dividends 50 per cent. Prices of oil to consumers have advanced 25 to 50 per cent.

Tobacco Trust—Prices to consumer the same. Wages the same. Value of stock has advanced 65 per cent.

Powder Trust—No indications of any change in the price of powder or of wages in the industry. Price of stock has gone up.

Window Glass Trust—Prices of products have declined to prices they were just before promotion of combination.

Electric Lamp Trust—Prices of electric lamps unaffected by the dissolution of trust.

Aluminum Trust—Prices to consumers the same as they were before dissolution.

Unfortunately this represents ten years of legislative failure, but perhaps this very failure—a gigantic one—is going to make it easier to secure public support of real remedies for trust evils. Governor Wilson says the first step ought to be tariff reduction. Of course a crowd of alarmed privilege-holders promptly and loudly denounce him as a madman who will ruin the country, but the chances now are that he will have an opportunity to try his tariff medicine. At worst it could scarcely fail to be an improvement upon what Messrs. Roosevelt and Taft did while in office.

NOTE AND COMMENT

No date yet for the completion of the new bridge at the Falls. Yet Hon. Mr. Flemming was on the eve of building it—before election.

* * *

The local government and the C. P. R. announce once more that they have joined forces to boom New Brunswick. The news is good, but it would be better if they had not made the same announcement in 1909 and 1910 and let it go at that.

* * *

The American government ordered 500 twelve-inch shells from an English company in order to compel American shell manufacturers to reduce their price. It seems that there is a point beyond which even protectionist patriots will not go in the matter of paying protectionist prices.

* * *

Lord Strathcona has been telling the interviewer how longevity may be promoted. He refers to Frederick Harrison's golden rules of life, abstaining from tobacco and spirits, not eating too much, early rising, walking two hours a day, sleeping eight hours, and being contented and taking everything quietly. Lord Strathcona says most people eat too much. He contents himself with two meals a day.

* * *

Major Stephens, chairman of the Montreal Harbor Commission, whose colleagues resigned some time ago, has now followed thei rexample. No one seems to deny that Major Stephens is the best man in sight for this highly important post; but his place is needed for patronage purposes, and that is the end of it. Nothing will now prevent the exploitation of the Montreal harbor expenditures by the Conservative politicians.

* * *

The steel men are assembling at Ottawa to demand protection in place of the steel bounties which have expired. If the steel men are successful there will be loud complaint from the manufacturers who use pig iron and steel in their business. The woolen manufacturers are also waiting to see Mr. Borden about "a readjustment of the tariff." In fact not a few of the "friends" who contributed freely during the campaign of 1911 are growing anxious to collect the debt the Conservative party incurred on that occasion.

* * *

When Mr. W. H. Trueman and other Liberal lawyers appeared in court in Winnipeg last Saturday to defend Liberal workers arrested during the Macdonald-by-election, McMicken, the presiding magistrate, flourished a chair and threatened to strike one of the lawyers on the head with it. Among the words he applied to the lawyers were: "dirty thief," "low blackguards," and "you thin-livered beasts." The prompt acquittal of two of the accused men, and the evident fact that the charges against them were trumped up for political purposes, help to throw light upon the methods which the Liberal party faced in Macdonald. McMicken's conduct speaks for itself.

* * *

Colonel Roosevelt's popularity appears to have been considerably increased among certain elements in the United States by his courageous, if somewhat theatrical, conduct after the attempt to assassinate him. It is no fault of the Colonel that a despicable attempt was made upon his life, and for the good courage he displayed he is entitled to due credit. Many will forgive him, even if they believe he was somewhat quick to take advantage of his approach to martyrdom; but it would appear that the political tide is setting too strongly against him to permit him to hope with reason for success on November 5. There are in the United States too many voters who believe with Job Hedges in the square deal, but who, like Job, do not believe "in one man dealing all the time."

* * *

In his speech foreshadowing the adoption of the closure in dealing with the home rule bill, Mr. Asquith reminded his opponents that they would have need of it if ever they gained office and attempted to adopt protection. He said:

It is said we are dealing less generously with the time of the house than was done by the government of 1893. In 1893 the procedure of closure by what is called guillotine was in its infancy. It has become much more scientific now, and I think much more reasonable as it has been developed by subsequent experience, to which both parties in the state have impartially contributed. (Opposition cries of "No.," and Ministerial cheers.) There is not a man sitting on those benches opposite who does not know that if we were turned out of office tomorrow—if we went to the country (Opposition cheers)—and if—a much larger "if"—you got a majority, within six months of your advent to office my successor would be making a precisely similar motion with regard to the principal bill of the session—the Tariff (Cheers.) Will you ever get your tariff through this house without a guillotine? (Ministerial cheers.) Whether we like it or not, the guillotine is now one of the almost elementary normal instruments of our parliamentary procedure.

* * *

Mr. J. Allen Baker, M. P., in a recent statement to the Toronto Globe, pointed out how overwhelming Britain's strength in pre-Dreadnought ships is as compared with Germany's. He said:

"In our mighty pre-Dreadnought fleet we have 40 battleships ('many of them,' as Mr. Asquith said, 'in the first bloom of youth') against Germany's 20. Ours have a displacement of 584,000 tons to the Germans' 241,000 tons—38 of our 40 have among them 152 twelve-inch guns, while the 20 German ships have no guns larger than eleven-inch ones, and only 40 of them. But besides these 'first-class' pre-Dreadnought battleships there is also our fleet or armored cruisers to be reckoned with; we have 35 of them, and Germany has eight; ours displace 416,000 tons, theirs displace 78,500 tons; ours have 470 guns, theirs have 112; 68 of our guns are 9.2, while the Germans have only six over 9-inch, and they are 9.4. So that not only in numbers but also in the calibre of the guns the British sea power is simply overwhelming."

The Toronto Globe suggests that Mr. Borden's emergency is to be found in Ottawa rather than in Great Brtain, but of that perhaps we shall know more when Mr. Borden shall have made public his policy and his reasons for it.

* * *

A Winnipeg man writes to a Conservative newspaper in Ottawa as follows:

I see you have concluded, as will all the East, that the Macdonald election has minimized the cry for reciprocity. This is not so. The well informed Conservatives of the West will tell you that. If the East thinks reciprocity was buried they will discover that it was buried alive. I am an open-minded person on the advantages of reciprocity, and have a secret fear of its results that I have not yet seen in print, but they have no fears in the West. As to Macdonald, in all my experience I have not before met with such a degenerate fight, with the issues so obscured with vile tactics. I am told they do all elections that way hereabouts. If that be so Canada should be wakened up. There is no difference in the parties; they are both corrupt. On the other hand the people do not blame them or THEMSELVES, WHO ARE TO BLAME.

The Ottawa Citizen, Conservative, in commenting upon this communication, says "Reciprocity and the naval question are mere quibbles in comparison with the issue of the political purity of this Dominion. It is the people who are to blame." Doubtless. But the Conservatives, including some prominent men, who disgraced themselves by the use of force and fraud in Macdonald, ought to be punished. Then the way will be clear for undertaking the general reform which the Citizen properly regards as necessary.

FAKE ELECTION CASES DROPPED BY THE TORIES

That Charges Were Trumped Up is Shown by Prompt Acquittal—Western Conservative Methods Exposed.

(Manitoba Free Press.)

Portage la Prairie, Oct. 17—The case against Walkinshaw, the young Liberal who was arrested at Rathwell during the Macdonald election, rushed into Winnipeg and flung into jail, hurried away again in the early morning to Portage la Prairie where he was again jailed and held without bail, his friends during this time being refused access to him, was this morning dismissed by Mayor Garland.

The crown offered no evidence in support of their charge and Mr. Walkinshaw was given a certificate of dismissal.

When the case was called F. C. Taylor, representing the attorney general's department, announced that he had no evidence to offer and the case was dismissed. Mr. Walkinshaw being given a certificate to this effect.

It transpired that the information in Mr. Walkinshaw's case was sworn out by a mysterious person named C. Chad, of St. James, before any offence was committed and the warrant issued by Paul Kane, a justice of the peace, of Rathwell, apparently as a matter of form on the application of the crown.

Like all the other actions of the provincial police during the Macdonald election, the arrest of D. H. Walkinshaw, of Winnipeg, a canvasser for the Independent candidate, was put in its true light here today when the trumped up case against him was dismissed by Mayor Garland, acting magistrate, in the absence from the city of Magistrate Marshall.

F. G. Taylor, acting for the crown on instructions from the attorney general, announced to the magistrate that the crown had no evidence to submit, and suggested that there was no other course open but to dismiss the case. At the demand of E. J. McMurray, of Winnipeg, counsel for Walkinshaw, a formal certificate of dismissal was granted and Mr. Walkinshaw and Mr. McMurray boarded the train for Winnipeg.

(Manitoba Free Press.)

R. J. A. Prince, the young Winnipeg law student who was arrested at Cardinal last Thursday, taken to Morden, kept in jail for over twenty-four hours and bullied by officers of the law into hope of making him plead guilty, returned to Winnipeg yesterday afternoon from Morden where he had been, earlier in the day, triumphantly acquitted. Mr. Prince was arrested on an information sworn out by an official of the provincial government; but the crown made no attempt to make good the charge and the magistrate dismissed the case. Mr. Prince in an interview published below tells a remarkable story of how, when he was in the cells, a determined attempt was made to induce him to plead guilty by the promise of immediate release.

Magistrate Morden said: "Before dismissing this case I should like to say that it is entirely wrong altogether. Either one of two things is true. This young man should never have been arrested or the crown should now be in such a position as to go on with the charges which have ben laid against him. They are not prepared and there is only one conclusion to the case and that is to dismiss it. There has been ample time for the preparation of evidence. The crown ought if there were a real case now to be ready to go and proceed with the trial. There is absolutely no reason for a remand. There is no excuse for this case being carried any further, and I therefore dismiss the case."

Mr. Manahan asked for a certificate of dismissal and the magistrate said that he would willingly grant that. Mr. Jicklie, J. P., sat on the bench with the magistrate and the magistrate intimiated that his colleague agreed entirely with the judgment which had been given.

BUDDING BUSINESS MAN.

She was an aristocratic but vinegar-faced lady, and she had called on her friend, Mrs. Huston.

"He's a charming little fellow, Mrs. Huston," she said, referring to Will Houston, junior. "Only five years old, you say? You'll give me a kiss, won't you, Willie?"

Willie did not evince any signs of eagerness to comply with the request, but he kissed her.

"That's a good boy," said the visitor; "but what are you holding in your hand so tightly?"

"It's a quarter mamma gave me," said the truthful Willie; "she said she 'spected you'd want to kiss me, and I told her I wouldn't do it for less."

ABE MARTIN

Mr. Mooty Spray has returned from a week's visit t' Cincinnati. He says his only regret is that he didn't have relatives enough t' stay longer. Th' woman who calls her baby a "kid" allus chews gum at th' the-ater.