

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1904.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH. Published every Wednesday and Saturday...

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Semi-Weekly Telegraph ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 26, 1904.

AT PORT ARTHUR.

Alexis's report to the czar on the latest Japanese attack on Port Arthur indicates that the exchange of fire was at long and comparatively ineffective range.

The Russian admiral in command of the fleet at Port Arthur, Admiral Rozhanski, is reported to have been severely wounded in the attack.

The Japanese are reported to have captured several of the Russian ships at Port Arthur, and to have destroyed others.

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by Canadian. While Canadians are likely to forgive Mr. Bourassa much because his weakness is of the head rather than of the heart, they will find it difficult to extend the same measure of leniency to Professor Smith who is so ready to take Mr. Bourassa seriously.

It is good," writes the professor to his friend, "to remind the English-speaking Canadians that they are not the only inhabitants of the Dominion, which counts today among its population, besides your own compatriots, representatives of several other different races."

Is the reminder necessary? We had thought the English-speaking Canadians were soberly aware of the fact. Were they not, there still would be no necessity for urging the Bourassa party to speak to them about it, since there is, as there long has been, a very flood of such reminders in the French-Canadian press.

And Professor Smith says, also: "It is not to be expected that the non-British element of our population should see without a protest their interests sacrificed to those of a political party in Great Britain, whose object, glorious though it may appear to those who champion it, does not satisfy British ambition. Neither can it be expected that the French-Canadian should allow himself to be deprived of the least portion of his autonomy at the sacrifice of the fruits of his labor in order to realize an Imperialistic dream."

"The citizens of this country came here in order to earn a living for themselves and their families, and not to aid by their labor military enterprises in which they are not interested, and which can bring them no profit. It is time that this side of the Imperialistic question be made known to us. It is a work to which our newspaper could contribute."

At the same time, it will breathe into the suffocating atmosphere of our politics a little of that fresh air of patriotism and of the hope of the young."

But what are "military enterprises in which they are not interested and which can bring them no profit"? And where are they? The citizens of this country, it is true, desire to earn their living in peace. It is a proper and natural wish, but sometimes in our history, but for military enterprises in which some people professed to have no interest, the right to earn our living in peace would have been denied us. Canada, however strongly and justly she desires peace, must either secure it by her own wit and her own right arm, or she must secure it through the Empire of which she forms so royal and so valuable a part. Recent incidents in the history of this hemisphere have clearly indicated what might be the fate of the Dominion if it were a republic. Since from sentiment and interest together Canadians view the British connection as of inestimable value, and since sentiment counts most heavily, it is improper for Professor Smith or another to pervert national issues and blow upon the smallest spark of disloyalty, even though it appear in the most fantastic of French-Canadian newspapers. And it is regrettable, because it tends to invest any such newspaper and sentiment with a false importance.

In telling a half-truth about conditions which do not exist, the good professor, by omitting to mention the whole truth which is that no Canadian is in danger of being dragged at the chariot wheel of British militarism or of being called upon to sacrifice his autonomy of the fruits of his labor in order that an Imperialistic dream may be realized. In these circumstances his own opinions and the still wilder ones of his friend, Mr. Bourassa, are without excuse and their expression smacks of offence.

"The expenses of a war," said Mr. Gladstone, "are the moral check which it has placed the Almighty to impose upon the ambition and lust of conquest that are inherent in so many nations." The thought of the human misery during and after a great conflict is not sufficient to deter those who make war. But the immediate cost and the mortgage which remains, the impaired credit, the commercial stagnation which follow when the contest is over and which burden the country whose wounds are healing—the thought of these things prevents many wars and shortens others. When a nation is stirred with anger there are few to count the cost of the coming struggle and few whose voices are powerful to warn against the unspeakable misery which it will surely entail. But once the struggle begins and no man can tell when it will be ended, or how, or how many peoples may be swept into the vortex, money and resources become a question of dominant importance.

M. Roche, formerly French minister of commerce, recently made some calculations which enable the present and future expenses of Russia and Japan to be estimated with reasonable accuracy. Russia's army and navy, from this time forward, if the field of operations is confined to the Far East, will cost her about \$1,500,000 a day. Japan's war bill for each twenty-four hour day will be about the same, for while Russia is fighting farther from her capital, the Mikado is a better paymaster and provider. The Russians are likely to be both hungry and poorly clad, yet, as one observer has said, it will require the combined daily wages of 7,000,000 Russian laborers to pay the daily expenses of their brothers in the field.

Should the conflagration spread and involve other nations it is estimated that France, whom it cost \$2,000,000 daily to maintain her army in 1870-71, would find her daily bill increased to \$5,000,000, a general European war; that it would cost Russia \$5,600,000, Germany \$5,000,000, and Austria \$6,000,000. Add Great Britain,

China and the United States and the world would be spending \$40,000,000 a day, or more than a million and a half an hour, for blood-letting.

It costs more to kill a man than it used to and infinitely more to nurse him if he is ill or wounded. The modern machinery of death is infinitely more complicated and expensive. It does not follow that the number of killed is much greater, but the bill per man killed, wounded or alive after the war is much greater in each successive year.

Japan has shown that her people are enthusiastic for war and ready to contribute to its cost. Their willingness to pay is not to be questioned. Their ability to pay may be questioned if the war is long, for the cost will grow month by month, and the first year's expenditures are estimated at \$275,000,000 reckoning at the present rate of outlay. Japan's credit at present is good. Her resources and her ability to pay her bills to the end and after it are somewhat uncertain. France is said to have already invested \$1,500,000,000 in Russian securities and to be unwilling to make a further loan. Yet that good authority, the London Statist, says if Russia has only Japan to fight she will be able to float a war loan may grand enough out of her people to keep going during a struggle of moderate duration. But as Russia's credit is admittedly ragged, and as her conscript forces must be more scantily fed, paid and clothed, the longer they are in the field, and as discontent at home must increase as the horrors of the conflict swell and the "grinding" process goes on, the outlook for the Russian people would appear extremely dismal.

The Globe refers from Dr. Daniel's speech that St. John elected him because the government did not prefer the interests of this port to the interests of all others. No such inference is correct. The people of this city have always recognized the claims of other cities. They did not expect that the railroad would be built to serve St. John alone. They did believe that St. John should be guaranteed the business to which its singularly fortunate geographical position entitles it. They did object to the danger that Canadian freight would find its way to Portland rather than to St. John and Halifax, and they thought with Mr. Blair that the proposal to duplicate the I. C. R. would involve a useless outlay of public money.

The Globe tells us the G. T. P. will make our fortunes:—"Really, however it may be in appearance, St. John enjoys a highly-favored position in relation to this project, so that it is practically unworkable. If this is so, then the people of that city will not stand any better with the rest of the Dominion if they have acted, or should ever act, in favor of it. It is for this reason that they returned him to Parliament."

If things are coming St. John's way at the rate the Globe says they are the election of Dr. Daniel will not sidetrack them. But St. John people, much as they esteem the Globe's opinion, would have preferred several material changes in the government's railroad policy which would have operated for the benefit not of St. John alone but of the whole country.

MR. HAZEN'S POSITION. There are not wanting signs that Mr. Hazen, the leader of the interesting minority at Fredericton, is getting in his own way. As his progress towards peace and power in his province has not been marked by either amazing subtlety or unobtrusive energy it is not clear why he should insist in handicapping himself further by taking up the position he now occupies in regard to provincial rights.

If the opposition leader were to declare today that he believes none of the provinces is entitled to a favorable readjustment of its subsidy, the people would know where he stands, and while a great majority of them would think him wrong their respect for him might not be appreciably diminished. But Mr. Hazen does not say that. He says the course he is now taking is the only one open to him. Speaking generally of the cement business, however, it may be said that the quality of that article at present offered for public consumption appears woefully lacking in those ingredients which alone make it valuable. "Let us get together," shouts the Gazette—and lays about it with a club. There are some shrewd politicians in this town. We shall not name them today.

DENISON'S TACTICS. It is a curious fact that when the Cossacks begin to harass Japan's advance into Manchuria, the czar's famous cavalry will put into practice the tactics of a Canadian soldier, Colonel G. T. Denison of Toronto. The London Daily Telegraph of a recent date reminds English readers that it was Colonel Denison to whom was due the revolutionizing of the Cossack method of warfare. The Telegraph's military expert says on this matter: "The late war has shown that a very important change was made in the constitution of the Cossacks about the time of the Franco-German War of 1870 by the czar Alexander, the emancipator of the serfs. He had been greatly influenced by an essay by Lieut. Col. Denison, as he then was, of our Canadian volunteers. Lieut. Col. Denison had won an international prize that had been offered by the czar for European competition on the subject of the evolution of cavalry. Lieut. Col. Denison had been very much impressed by the success of the leaders of the cavalry or mounted infantry employed on both sides of the great war between North and South in America, such as Sheridan, Forrest and others. In accordance with the suggestions of Lieut. Col. Denison, the czar modeled all his Cossacks on the scheme of training adopted in America. The men, although they might occasionally change when opportunity served, were to be mainly employed, like the Bers, as mounted infantry, that is to say, to get about by help of their horses, but to fight on foot. It was a complete revolution of the native habits of the Cossacks, and there were able officers in Russia, not a few who thought that the revolutionary change in their character had

several languages. A contract is said to have been made at a rate which will permit the mid-ocean newspaper to be printed as a profit.

After May, then, persons seeking a week or ten days absolute divorce from the news of the world, its markets, its wars, its marriages and births and deaths, will be able to find that seduction on the ocean no longer. These persons will protest against the innovation. But the majority will buy the mid-ocean newspaper if the scheme proves successful and some years hence the publishers will doubtless go in for colored "candy" supplements and all the other "trimmings" of metropolitan journals ashore.

A PICTURE OF ST. JOHN. In the course of an editorial criticism Dr. Daniel and discussing the railway question, the Toronto Globe has this to say of St. John:—"St. John is admirably adapted to serve as a winter port. It never becomes frost-bound. It has always deep water. It is comparatively easy of approach by ocean steamers. It has now an excellent system of docks, and there is abundance of room for more. It has a vigorous, progressive, and public-spirited population who take an intense pride in their historic borough and are prepared to resent any disposition on anybody's part to slight it. But the people of St. John must take account of the fact that the inhabitants of other seaports are equally proud of their cities and equally prepared to resent any slight put upon them. Halifax appeals strongly to its people, and St. John's people, in each case there is a harbor which is in many respects as suitable for a winter port as that of St. John."

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SEVEN SHIPS NOW REPORTED SUNK.

(Continued from page 1.) The army disembarked there the better they would be suited, being convinced that only Korea is filled with the mikado's soldiers by presence of numbers and clamor of public opinion Japan will be driven into the arms of the Russians. Nothing but a complete change of plan in the Japanese campaign, as developed up to date, will compel the Russians to depart from their determination to play a consistent, waiting game.

The Russians also express much more satisfaction at the present situation at Liao Tung. The forces on the peninsula have been reinforced to an extent which will render a Japanese landing there difficult, if not impossible, and the garrison at Port Arthur has been amply provisioned to withstand a siege. So far as the peninsula is concerned, the preparations there may now be regarded as complete.

New Russian Minister of War. Paris, March 21—A despatch to the Temps from St. Petersburg says General Sakharoff, chief of the general staff, who has been acting minister of war, will be succeeded by General Kropotkin.

Important Sunday School Meeting. The executive of the St. John County Sunday School Association met last evening in a hall here. A letter from the chairman of the provincial executive, T. S. Simms, was read, stating that arrangements for the provincial Sunday school tour are well under way and that the tour would open in St. John city Monday evening, May 9, continuing on Tuesday with a morning, afternoon and evening session.

The members of the tour party are Alfred Day, of Detroit; G. C. Pugh and H. Meredith, of New York, and Rev. A. Lucas. As the tour will be St. John county's annual convention the following committee to arrange for church to hold convention and mass meetings: R. T. Hayes; to arrange for a choir, Miss A. E. Estey and Mrs. R. Reid.

It is proposed to hold two mass meetings on Sunday, May 8, when Mr. Tuller and Mr. Meredith will conduct singing and give instruction and suggestions how to make a correct estimate if anybody can, says that 20,000,000 feet of hard wood can also be cut yearly along the line of the new road.

The proposed line will naturally be a lumber line, as carrying lumber will for many years be its principal business.

Five Years at Sea. E. M. Parker, a native of Walton, Nova Scotia, has been spending a few days in Toronto, says the News. He has lately returned from sea, having been away from home for over five years. Mr. Parker served his time in the ship Muskoka, of Windsor, with Capt. Cropp, having acted in the capacities of third and second mates, before leaving her in Cape Town, South Africa. He was in her about four and a half years.

On arrival in Cape Town, Parker decided to return home and with that intention, joined the barque R. Morrow, bound for the West Indies, as first mate, but after putting out of the harbor, they were met by a furious gale which drove them ashore. The vessel became a complete wreck, but the crew managed to reach shore safely.

Mr. Parker then shipped as mate of the American ship S. B. Thomas, sailing for Seattle (Wash.), and on arrival there he returned home across the continent by rail. He expects to go to Halifax about the first of May to pass the usual mate's examination.

On receiving his "first officer's papers," Mr. Parker expects to go to San Francisco, where he will take the position of third mate on one of steamers of the Hawaiian-American Steamship Company.

GOLDWIN SMITH AND BOURASSA. It is not surprising that Mr. Bourassa of Labelle should find a newspaper to promulgate the fantastic French nationalism whose prophet he has become. The Dominion is little disposed to regard as dangerous the Gallic effervescence of the Bourassa "party." It is to be regretted, on the other hand, that Professor Goldwin Smith, in enrolling himself among the subscribers to Le Nationaliste, should consider it expedient to express some views which are by no means sound.

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