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THE ST. JOHN STAR is published by THE SUN PRINTING COMPANY (Ltd.), at St. John, New Brunswick, every afternoon (except Sunday) at \$3.00 a year.

ST. JOHN STAR. ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 27, 1905.

SIFTON AND LAURIER. The Western Liberals in parliament have passed a resolution asking Sir Wilfrid to take Mr. Sifton back into the cabinet again.

The day before Mr. Sifton resigned, the Star expressed a doubt that he was the kind of man to sacrifice an office which has brought him wealth, merely for principle's sake.

But if he did not resign on a matter of principle, what was the real cause of his action? Was he forced out; did he resign in a fit of resentment at the way he had been ignored by his leader and his colleagues, or was his resignation a detail of the strategy which has secured the assent of the Liberal representatives of the West and Ontario to a principle which a month ago they swore they would never accept?

That Laurier intentionally made the separate school provisions in the original autonomy legislation more comprehensive than he ever expected they would be when he passed the house and that he did this for the purpose of making bogus concessions and a fake compromise to save the feelings of the Protestant Liberal members and hoodwink the country, we fully believe. But while it is possible that Mr. Sifton's protest against the original bills and his acceptance of the alleged compromise were parts of this plot, it is hardly likely that he would have permitted himself to be used as a cats-paw where the scorching was so inevitable. It is more likely that if his retirement was not intended and desired by the premier, that his action was inspired by pure strength, perhaps by the idea that he could carry enough supporters with him to force the government to his own terms.

But the belief has been persistent in well-informed circles that the resignation of this Napoleon of the West was caused by something not at all connected with the school question or any other political issue. While no direct charges have been made against Mr. Sifton as minister of the interior, disquieting reports have been in circulation which, together with the apparent affluence of the minister—who was poor when he came to Ottawa—and of some of his friends, have caused the prime minister to feel that it was time for a change. It is also said that a social scandal of recent date at the capital strengthened Laurier's feeling to such an extent that he was only waiting for a good chance to get rid of Mr. Sifton when this autonomy business came up.

Whatever the truth of these reports, they are widely believed and certainly Laurier's treatment of Mr. Sifton in the preparation and introduction of the legislation now before parliament, seems confirmatory. If he refuses to invite the latter to come back after his resignation and after the request of the Western Liberals, the belief will be further confirmed.

Mr. Sifton spoke in support of the school clauses of the Autonomy Bill yesterday. He is opposed to separate schools, but he would rather support the amended measure than cast a vote or raise a voice that would make trouble for Sir Wilfrid Laurier or his government. He would, however, have joined any party to defeat the bill in its original shape. These irrefragable positions would do a greater man than Mr. Sifton an injustice. Sir

Wilfrid Laurier has but to adopt this principle in a government measure and Mr. Sifton will support it, matters not how vicious it may be, provided always that the wording of the clause is changed somewhat to convey the appearance of a compromise.—Frederick Gleason.

HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS. It is perhaps not to be expected that the City Council would so near election time take up again the question of west side improvements. But if the Citizens' League or the citizens generally can impress upon the candidates the necessity for early and decisive action in the matter it will be well worth while. The winter port question is more important than any other likely to come before the Council during the coming year.

It will be remembered that last year an arrangement was under discussion for the construction of wharves on the north side of Sand Point slip. It was expected that the donor of the land would build the wharves, the railway company afterward paying interest on this cost, and providing a sinking fund. This work of construction would give opportunity for considerable expansion. It would provide three additional berths, to which others could afterwards be added on the northern side of the new pier.

We do not propose to discuss here the point on which the city or the company failed to agree. It is sufficient to say that the negotiations went far enough to show that this arrangement was practical and was the simplest solution of the immediate problem. The wharves proposed under this agreement can be provided in this spot at less cost than the same accommodation can be sought for elsewhere.

It is still possible, if the dominion government be asked to deep water dredge at once, to have two additional berths with the necessary superstructures ready for next season's business. That would meet the statement of Sir Thomas Shaughnessy that there is no accommodation here for the two new C. P. R. steamships if the company should send them next winter and that the new Allan boats would also be crowded out.

We should like to hear from the Citizens' League candidates and other aspirants on this question. It is not too much for the citizens to ask that the men who seek admission to the City Council should state their views on questions of this importance.—Sun

SONG OF THE RETREATING RUSSIAN ARMIES. We're marching on to freedom in the dark before the dawn; The shells are being rained on us, and the shrapnel shriek on high, We're marching on to freedom, through the black and bloody morning; A crimson trail is in the east, and creeps across the sky.

We're hopelessly defeated; Let the joyous news be shouted. Our armies are in full retreat and soon we shall be free. Outfought and outmaneuvered, out-fanked and routed and routed, Three hundred thousand beaten men are singing like the sea.

Our forces fill the valleys full; The plain is overflowing; Our bayonets clothe the trampled earth like fields of sloping corn. Above the dense mountain tops the light is slowly growing; A scarlet cord is in the east, and soon it will be morn.

LOCAL NEWS. Over six hundred persons have been added to the communion rolls of the different churches in Truro, as a result of the evangelistic services that have been held in that town for the past four weeks.

CURED KIDNEY DISEASE. Mrs. Fred Mills, Walton street, Port Hope, Ont., states: "I was troubled for some time with kidney disease, and though I tried a great many different medicines never succeeded in obtaining relief until I began the use of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. By the regular use of this preparation for time I was completely cured of kidney disease."

TRAINS MAY RUN NEXT WEEK. Trains running on schedule time next week is the promise now made by the management of the Shore Line. This may possibly not be the case, but an effort to bring it about is being made. Some two weeks ago a gang of men were put to work clearing the line from Carleton to Spruce Lake. This work has now been practically completed and it was seen that by getting along at the same rate it would take till midsummer to clear the whole line the management decided to increase the force. This morning crews were started on every section of the road as many men as are convenient being employed, and the work will be carried on on all sections at the same time.

Every inch of the track has to be cleared by pick and shovel. There is still a considerable depth of snow over the rails, but the greatest trouble arises from the ice in which the rails are encased. The removal of this occupies much time, but it will be chopped off as rapidly as possible.

WITH ADVERTISERS. The anniversary clothing sale begun on Saturday by J. N. Harvey was the most successful yet held. Notwithstanding the heavy rain the store was crowded all day and evening, but as many complained that the notice was so short they were not prepared to take advantage of the bargains offered, the new Allan boats would also be crowded out.

HELP FOR FREDERICTON. There is quite an exodus of St. John help this spring, due somewhat to the western boom, and otherwise to the help made by outside parties in the provinces, who are also affected by the attractions beyond Winnipeg. Frederickton itself will take four well-known dry goods workers from this city, namely: Miss Thompson, and Mr. McNeill, formerly of Morrill & Sutherland, Mr. Irvine of Macaulay's and Mr. Barnes of Manchester Robertson Allison's. They are to work for Fred E. Edgecombe and left home today.

T stands for TIGER and also for TEA. You can see on the package A B C D or E 60, 50, 40, 30, 25. All notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths must be endorsed with the names and addresses of the persons sending same.

UNDERTAKING. In all its details with thorough knowledge of its requirements. N. W. BRENNAN, 715 Main Street. Telephone: Day, 222 a. Nights, 222 b.

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Ladies' Plain Cashmere Hose. Fine quality Winter weight, full fashioned, high spliced heel and toe, seamless throughout, beautifully soft and of the best and most reliable manufacture.

Special White Wool Blankets. English make with fancy colored borders. Size 60x30 inches; regular \$3.00 quality now \$2.50 pair. Only a few pairs left at this special price.

Ladies' Silk Neckwear Underpriced. 100 dozen Ladies' Stock Collars and Bows; goods worth up to 50c, now all one special price—25c each.

White Cambric, Heavy English Make. 36 inches wide, regular 12c. cloth. Special 10 yards for \$1.00. At the price cottons are selling today this is a bargain.

Heavy Linen Towels. Large size 20x38 inches, all white or red, hemmed ends, 30 dozen of this Special Towel at 15c. each or 17 for 25c.

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Further Reductions For Tuesday. Table Linens, Prints and Dress Goods at Very Low Prices. Some very tempting values in Irish Linens, at 24c, 30c, 40c, 50c, and 60c. yard. All widths to suit all tables.

This is a Rare Chance to Save Money.

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OUTSIDE SASHES. Do you want them removed? Your shop or house remodelled? If so send a card to A. E. HAMILTON, Carpenter and Builder, 88 Exmouth St. Shop 209 Brussels Street.

HOTEL ARRIVALS. ROYAL HOTEL, March 25.—W W Powell, Montreal; J Christie, Montreal; H B Hay, Chipman; Geo L Holland, Montreal; W L Mathers, Toronto; Jas Robinson, Weidon Robinson; Miramichi; Mrs J Kemp, Miss M Hoskin, Miss W Hoskin, Miss Sprout, Toronto; T N Vincent, St Johns, N F; Chas James, J C O'Brien, Toronto; F Parker Carvell, Charlottetown; W W Cole, Toronto; Miss B Parker, Yarmouth; L E Toussiey, Boston; E J Kose, Montreal; B T Bally, New York; Guy C Dunn, P S West, Fredericton; Judge Carleton, Woodstock; A F Wise, New York; B A Burke, Boston; J M Collins, Montreal; Karl Weatherbee, Montreal; F S Lamb, Boston; Will H Franklin, St Johns, N F.

BREAK UP LA CRIPPE OR A COLD WITH Pendleton's Panacea.

Directions: 1-4 Teaspoonful Panacea. 1 Teaspoonful Sugar. 1-4 Cup Milk. 1-2 Cup Hot Water. Mix well and sip frequently.

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We have just opened 60 pairs of our Famous \$1.50 All Wool Working Pants. Better value than ever. All sizes. A lot of Wrapping or Baling will be sold for 2, 3 and 4c per yard. Would be a good thing to put under Carpets or Oil Cloth.

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PARK HOTEL, March 25.—H E Hamilton, Woodstock; E B Tweed, Fredericton; E Thompson, Moncton; Curtis P Boinville, Digby; Jos Dwyer, Moncton; George Harris, Wm Sheppard, Harvey Sheppard, Stephen Snow, Springfield; James Russell, Le Newcasttle; R S Kerr and wife, Parrsboro; John H Brown, Toronto; G H Boher, St. Louis. DUFFERIN HOTEL, March 25.—J C Jones, Philadelphia; P I Beaulieu, E G Higginson, Montreal; L C Lashly, Toronto; LeB Goudard, Blain; W H Davidson, H Corcoran, Moncton; C R Palmer and wife, Moncton; E F Riche, Boston; J Milligan, Montreal.

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