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A PROGRESSIVE POLICY

An extended report of Hon. Mr. Tweedie's budget speech, which he finished Tuesday afternoon, is printed in this issue, and an examination of it will convince the country that the premier is justified in taking a cheerful view of the condition of the province and in describing his government's policy as a progressive one. Perhaps the most striking feature of the concluding part of the speech is that in which Hon. Mr. Tweedie outlines his plans for the preservation and development of New Brunswick's greatest asset—its forest lands. The forest country is to be surveyed, and, with the detailed information thus acquired, the government will be in a position to greatly improve upon the present regulations, and will know accurately the value of all the timber lands. Certain tracts at the headwaters of the streams will be set aside as necessary to maintain the generous flow of water necessary to the welfare of the whole province; lumbermen will be compelled to remove tree tops and clear away brush in their operations in order that there may be less material to feed forest fires. This plan, as the destructive fires of the last few seasons well prove, is a most important one. Certain lands where the growth is small will be made available for pulp-wood cutting. In many ways precautions will be taken to prevent fire and unnecessarily destructive methods of lumbering. As the premier says, the forest wealth of the province is perhaps first in importance among the questions with which the government has to deal, and an enlightened policy will have a most beneficial effect upon the future of the great lumber industry and its allied interests.

The opposition has its troubles. It cannot quarrel seriously with the proposed compulsory school law, and this advanced forest policy must commend its approbation as well. The financial outlook from the opposition standpoint is always hopeless or near it, yet the gloomiest critics will not discover much solid reason for depression. In private they will be inclined to agree with Mr. Staveur whose letter recommending the premier's foresight and finesse in regard to financial matters was a striking feature of yesterday's report of the proceedings at Fredericton. The reasons for the small deficit last year are clear to everyone, chief among them being the falling off in territorial revenue due to a depressed lumber market. It is far more than counterbalance the loss of 1905, which at the worst is inconceivable. The government, it must be admitted, deals well with most of the important matters of public concern which come before it, and the generous support accorded the administration by the country at large is the government's assurance that the gloom affected by certain members of the opposition is confined to a small circle.

THE NEXT ST. JOHN EXHIBITION

As Fredericton was to have an exhibition last fall, and as the capital was regarded as entitled to a government grant, the St. John Exhibition Association decided to let 1905 go by without any fair here. It was understood at that time that an exhibition would be held here in the early autumn of 1906, and it was expected that the usual grants would be forthcoming. St. John people will remember that efforts were made late last summer to arrange for some sort of attraction to provide entertainment and bring visitors to the city. It was then felt by many business men that an exhibition or some similar event should have been planned, and the absence of any such attraction, exhibition, horse show or carnival, was generally regretted.

For these reasons the decision of the local association to hold a provincial exhibition here next September was unusually welcome. To skip one year, in the general opinion, is perhaps wise enough, but an exhibition every other year is thought advisable, and not a few would like to see a horse show or carnival during the off year. The view has been forwarded in some quarters that the Dominion exhibition next fall at Halifax would be likely to interfere seriously with the success of a show here. But the St. John exhibition managers believe the opposite to be true, and they advance convincing reasons for their position. Many western exhibitors, they point out, would send their goods to the St. John show—Sept. 23-30—and forward them a few days later to Halifax in time for the opening there. They would thus secure a double amount of advertising with very little additional expense. This might well apply to a great many features of these exhibitions. It is quite likely that St. John could secure unusually attractive amusement features because the managers of these enterprises would be going to Halifax, the large Do-

THE SANITORIUM PLAN

A document which deserves careful reading by all New Brunswickers is the report of the New Brunswick Medical Association in regard to a sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis, which was presented to the government Tuesday. There are many diseases upon the provincial treasury, and they grow yearly in spite of a desire to economize, but the price of progress is usually one that may be paid with ultimate profit. The medical men, in their forcible and well arranged paper, submit a most impressive series of facts and suggestions.

It may be well to remember that when contagious diseases become epidemic the government is called upon, and does not hesitate, to make such expenditures as are necessary to stamp out the affection and restore public confidence. But tuberculosis, of which there were 45,000 cases in Canada last year, and of which 108 persons died in St. John alone during that period, makes a much greater inroad upon the population than do the diseases which commonly cause public alarm. With the knowledge that tuberculosis is infectious it has come to be regarded as a problem of the utmost gravity. The discovery that it is curable by modern treatment, and, more important, that proper preventive measures followed consistently through a term of years would practically exterminate consumption, has placed upon the medical profession and upon the public generally a duty to which the former are already keenly alive and of which the latter are, fortunately, beginning to appreciate the gravity.

If the proposals of the Medical Association had to do with the prevalence of smallpox or even with the spread of some disease threatening the cattle of the province, there would be immediate and wide-spread recognition of the validity of the reasons they advance in support of their plan. Now that the public is coming to recognize that tuberculosis is a more serious question than many which so quickly fix the general attention, one feels confident that the medical men have the support of a great majority of New Brunswickers in advocating the establishment of a sanatorium. As they well point out, while the actual number of patients treated might be small in comparison with the whole number afflicted, those cured would be effective instructors in the matter of properly caring for consumptive patients at home, with regard both to the treatment and to the simple precautions necessary to prevent the spread of the malady.

A CARNEGIE JOKE

Men have credited Mr. Carnegie with a sense of humor; others have argued the contrary. But it is settled. Mr. Carnegie is a humorist. And there is a moral as well as humor in the story of the Steel King told in our special despatches this morning. Briefly put, the congregation of a certain church felt that they needed an organ. It is a common situation. Some minds that an organ, or a new church, is necessary, proceed to get it and pay for it. Others ask Mr. Carnegie or Mr. Rockefeller to pay for it. This congregation decided that Mr. Carnegie, having so much money, ought to buy their sacred music box, and wrote him to that effect. He replied that when they had raised \$500 of the \$1,000 they said they needed, he would consider it. They raised \$500. He considered it. Then he wrote to say that he had investigated their case and that for a small and by no means rich congregation a \$500 organ should be good enough. He advised them, therefore, to spend their \$500 and be content.

And why should they not take the lesson in good part? It is plain and of wide application. If the people of a church desire to spend money on music, why should they not confine themselves to a price they can afford, and pay it? The money congregations raise for themselves is probably of much greater benefit to them than any that is given to them by persons upon whom they have no claim. Very often, it would seem, they are ready, as cities and individuals frequently are, to seek outside aid before they have honestly tried to help themselves. Sometimes the organ and the music are on a scale much more striking than the minister's salary or the amount dispensed yearly by the church in charity. The churches, in fine, often betray the human weaknesses of their members, which may be natural enough, but which disappoints those who look to the religious bodies for leadership and example.

AN OFFER FOR THE CENTRAL

Premier Tweedie well may expect little rest until he has amplified the very interesting statement he made in the House last evening with respect to the New Brunswick Coal and Railway Company, commonly called the Central. An offer to

THE POPULAR MAJORITY

Mr. Chamberlain in his first speech of the session warned the government that their popular majority was slight in comparison with their parliamentary majority, and that no great change in the sentiment of the country would be required to sweep them from power. It is evident that the opposition leader did not speak by the book. The figures given by the Liberal Magazine show that the popular vote was overwhelmingly against the Unionist, Counting the Liberal and Labor vote together, and the Unionist of all stripes as one party, the vote was

	Liberal and Labor	Unionist
Total England	2,506,530	2,075,918
Wales	171,315	96,912
Scotland	369,035	235,391
Total Great Britain	3,044,880	2,408,221
Ireland	350,000	150,000
Total for United Kingdom	3,394,880	2,558,221

Thus, says the Magazine, there is a Liberal or Nationalist majority in every section of the electorate. It amounts in the case of Great Britain to 637,000, and in the case of the United Kingdom to over 837,000. There has been nothing like it in previous elections, as, indeed, must be evident when we consider how the majority was built up in detail. Of the 429 Liberal and Labor members, twenty-seven were offered no opposition; thirty-six had majorities of over 4,000 each, and averaging 3,235 each; thirty-one had majorities of between 3,000 and 4,000 each; whilst a further 114 had majorities of between 1,000 and 3,000. In other words, 279 Liberal and Labor members were either returned unopposed or had generous four-figure majorities. Moreover in many cases they entered the lists with four-figure Conservative majorities against them, as the previous electoral record of the constituencies. In ordinary times a four-figure ascendancy is unapproachable. All the Liberal members must have averaged a 2,000 majority each.

In 1900 the Conservative majority in votes was only 104,000, though they had a lead of 192 in the House; on another occasion they had 134 more members than the opposition. The present government majority in the House is very large, but the popular vote is even more significant.

PUNISHMENT

The intimation that the McCurdys will fight should mean that further revelations about the Mutual Life are to be expected. The McCurdys hint that some of the prominent men who are now leading the hue-and-cry against corrupt or extravagant life insurance methods were participants in the episode during the good old days before Hyde and Alexander quarreled and pulled down the golden temple. The Wall Street Journal is calling for the punishment of just such men as the McCurdys are now threatening with exposure. The South Sea bubble recalls the fact that the South Sea bubble directors were held personally responsible for the swindle. In an article it says in part—

"Better, perhaps, than even the report of the Armstrong committee, however drastic it may be, in the recommendations which it makes, is the letter of Associate Justice Peckham of the Supreme Court of the United States, declaring that it would be an inexcusable mistake for the Mutual Life Company to permit the President McCurdy to leave the country without the commencement of an action against him to recover the money he may owe it."

"When such a man as Judge Peckham speaks in such a way as this, it means something."

"The fate of the men who were guilty of the maladministration of the big insurance companies—the death of one of a disease, called by another name, but which was practically a broken heart; the mental and physical breakdown of another; the self-sufficiency of a third to France; the exclusion of others who feared to show themselves in their former haunts, and the outspoken demand of a supreme court judge to prevent Mr. McCurdy from leaving the country—is an impressive object lesson of the truth of the old saying that 'the way of the transgressor is hard.'"

"Justice demands still more than this. It demands that there shall be an enforcement of the criminal law against such high insurance officials as have violated law, with the same sternness as the enforcement of law against the poor clerk who may have stolen a few dollars. When the South Sea bubble collapsed in England in 1720, the directors who were responsible for that fraud were punished severely. Their estates were seized. Several of them were expelled from Parliament, and one or two who were identified with the fraud, committed suicide; while the high official of the government, who had been bribed by the company, was committed to the tower."

"Shall this generation do less?"

"It is not revenge that is wanted, but

PROVINCIAL RIGHTS

It is an opposition contention, not only in New Brunswick but in other provinces as well, that the demand upon the Dominion government for increased provincial subsidies is an old story of which nothing will come. There is growing evidence, however, that the request of New Brunswick and sister provinces for a readjustment cannot be denied much longer. The Charlottetown Guardian reminds its readers that conditions have undergone important changes since the provinces, at Confederation, surrendered their principal sources of revenue to the federal government. Since that time Dominion revenue and taxation have grown at a rate beyond all expectations. From \$13,000,000 the revenue has been multiplied by six. Therefore, the Guardian says,

"It is absurd and unjust that provincial subsidies should remain practically the same as they were at the beginning. The federal authority must in the end be forced to submit to a more equitable division."

In this connection a recent outspoken deliverance of Premier Gouin has awakened echoes from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Among other things he said: "If it takes too long to solve, I predict that you will see this problem become the point of departure for a sure evolution in the political parties in this province. I do not, in fact, fear to be the first in proclaiming it." He says the question must be settled on the line of the provincial claims, if not by the present administration, then by one of those coming after it.

"Premier Gouin is a strong man, and he generally believes to mean what he says. His province holds the balance of power between parties. A majority of the provincial governments are heavily with him in calling for a readjustment of the subsidies. As yet their leaders have not gone so far as Premier Gouin. His statement is a thinly veiled threat, a practical ultimatum to the federal government. If the provinces stand together in this matter with a determined front there is little doubt that they will make good."

Also, there is little doubt that they will stand together. When they have committed, Ottawa will listen. The country will be told that the provinces are "raising the treasury," that they are transferring money from one pocket to another; but the men who have to carry on provincial administrations will be able to undertake many necessary public services which they are now compelled to neglect because the provincial revenues are small in comparison with the demands of the people.

THE SCOTT ACT

The temperance advocates talk of bringing about another vote on the Scott Act in St. John. The adoption of this law was defeated here by very narrow majorities in 1882 and in 1886. Since the matter was last submitted to the people the temperance advocates have been carrying on a campaign year in and year out, and if they have made any headway the small majority of 1886 against the act would now be converted into a considerable majority in its favor. The temperance party complains that the license law is violated, and suggests the Scott Act as a cure for present conditions.

But what conditions would prevail if the Scott Act were law in this city? Would citizens exchange the situation of today for a situation like that prevailing in Moncton, in Chatham, in Newcastle, in Fredericton, or even in Sussex? There was published recently a clergyman's letter describing the liquor traffic in Newcastle. The Scott Act will prohibit it if it is enforced. But where in New Brunswick, in any large town or city, has it been enforced with good results throughout a term of years? In many places the Scott Act is used as a means of raising civic revenue, a practice destructive of respect for all law. In many places, too, kitchen bars and dives have flourished and are flourishing because of the unwillingness of the people to make the law respected.

The Scott Act is not responsible for such conditions. The people are responsible for them, and among the people thus responsible are hundreds who will vote for a prohibitory law and then wink at its violation if they do not themselves violate it. St. John, for a seaport town, is fairly sober. The temperance people are conscientious in demanding a prohibitory law, but many of them would hesitate to put one on the statute books if they believed it would lead to such conditions here as are known to exist in towns where it is now "in force." We need more temperance in St. John. But would the city be more sober under the Scott Act than it is today? Would the standard of public morality be higher? It must be doubted. If the temperance people believe the announcement of their intention to have a vote on the Scott Act will result in a better enforcement of the license law, they are using a perfectly legitimate weapon. But they realize no doubt that prohibition is one thing and a prohibitory law quite another.

BRITAIN AND THE INDIES

"A few months ago we celebrated the centenary of Trafalgar, which was well. But we should have done better to lay to heart Nelson's last words. It is a sinister coincidence that in this year of all years we should be removing the last symbol of England's power from the training-ground of the midshipman of the navy, the training-ground, moreover, with which are connected some of their greatest achievements. The moment it was threatened by Napoleon did not the master of them all hurry at full speed to its aid?"

The London Morning Post thus laments the failure of British statesmen to ally the unbusiness as to their future at present existing among the people of the British West Indies, owing to the withdrawal of the West Indian squadron. The Post is in a state of mind. It suspects Uncle Sam of many dark designs, among them the annexation of those islands. It even hints at the possibility of its duty in the Caribbean. "The West Indies, which are nothing to us but an orange that we have sucked dry, are boggans on the bounty of America. The privileges denied by us to our own colonies are granted to them by her. Nor is this all. She has alarmed the open door in our faces both in Cuba and Puerto Rico. With the control of the shortest routes to Panama, Honduras, and Jamaica in her hands how long will it take her to close the Gulf of Mexico to British trade? Just as long as it takes an active policy to overcome a negative one."

Success in meeting this situation in Asia is due to the fact that it is remote from the fiscal controversy. It is based mainly on political and strategic considerations. Russia is not a commercial rival, and our trade interests, both in the Near and the Far East, are preponderant. In the Western Hemisphere, on the other hand, we can never maintain our position without sound commercial strategy."

The Post "views with alarm" the present policy of "drift."

"It should not be necessary to prepare for today that should have been done yesterday. The only policy that succeeds in the long run is the policy based on the needs of the day after tomorrow. It is impossible to think of the West Indies apart from Canada and Australia. If the United States have a Pacific seaboard so has England. She has, too, what her rival has not, an enormous interest in the Southern Hemisphere. With the opening of the Panama Canal not only will British Columbia be brought nearer to the Atlantic provinces of the Dominion by thousands of miles, but the British Empire in Europe and America will have an alternative route to Australasia and the Far East shorter than that by way of the Suez Canal. Apparently it is taken for granted that a war in the Western Hemisphere is impossible, just as it was taken for granted that there would be no war in the world for a long time without accounting the feature of an additional benefit in the case of survivorship appealed to the gambling instinct and in addition there were seductive estimates of the amounts which would be accumulated and distributed at the end of the period. It was urged upon the policyholders that it was much better that he should forego slender annual dividends in the hope of the greatly increased returns which would await him in case he survived the tontine period."

Sale of Boys' Three-Piece Suits

At \$2.50 and \$3.50
These are the best values that have yet been offered in Boys' Suits. There are only ONE, TWO or THREE of each several lines. The regular prices were \$3.75 to \$6.00.
We are closing them at \$2.50, \$3.50
Near Patterns—Strong and Serviceable.

J. N. HARVEY, Clothing and Tailoring, 199 and 207 Union Street



GAME BOARDS

One of these Boards will furnish many evenings' entertainment.
Boards for 50 Games, \$2.25 each
Boards for 100 Games, 5.00 "
Boards for 65 Games, 3.75 "
Crokinole Boards, 80c. "
AIR-SHIPS
A fascinating and amusing toy for young people. Price 25c. each.
Billiard and Pool Tables
now selling at half price. Better secure one before they are all sold. Prices \$9, \$12.50, \$15, \$17.50, \$30.
W. H. THORNE & CO. Limited
Market Square, St. John, N. B.

Hartland Carnival.

Hartland, N. B., Feb. 21.—The first dress carnival was held in Hartland last evening in the roller rink, the evening being pleasant the hall was crowded and the floor being in good condition the skating was very much enjoyed. The judges, Messrs. Robertson, Horn and Crossman found it difficult to award the prizes as the costumes both for ladies and gentlemen were original and elegant. The following were awarded the prizes:
First, ladies' fancy—Miss Louise Reid, fancy silver fruit dish.
First, gentlemen's fancy—Mr. Roy Cameron, fancy silver ur.
Second, gentlemen's original, two-faced woman—Mr. Glenn Cowell, fancy cracker jar.
Honorable mention was made of the elegant costumes of Miss Helen Alexander, Miss Lida Reid, Mrs. G. McGolderick and Mrs. Webb Ross. Mrs. Geo. Wilkinson. The following appeared in costume: Mrs. Geo. McGolderick, fancy; Mrs. Webb Ross, Night; Mrs. Bert Boyer, Night; Mrs. Geo. Wilkinson, Tamborine Girl; Mrs. Gordon MacAdam, Nurse; Miss Louise Reid, Fancy; Miss Mabel Curtis, Fancy; Miss Lida Reid, Turkish Girl; Miss Sadie Clark, Hearts; Miss Helen Alexander, Queen of Hearts; Miss Myrtle Boyer, Canada; Miss Laura Curtis, Canada; Miss Nellie MacAdam, Gipsy; Miss Milne, Never, An Old Lady; Miss Bertie Faulkner, Indian Girl; Roy Cameron, Knight of the 10th Century; Garnet Birmingham, Clown; Harry Gillen, Clown; Lee Thistle, An Old Lady; George Boyer, Clown; Bird Boyer, Sunny Jim; Burton Taylor, Comical; Hugh Smith, Clown; Arnold Blizze, Darkey; Herb Dickinson, Uncle Sam; Donald Foster, Indian Chief; Will Nevers, An Old Man; Claude Thistle, Soldier Kakhi; Lawrence McNally, Whiplash; Tom Blaine, The Devil; Bird McMullen, Night and Day; John Fong, Chinaman; Bertram Rideout, Dude from Coney Island; Frank McCallum, Darkey.

WILL REVOLUTIONIZE THE LIFE INSURANCE BUSINESS

(Continued from page 1.)
Limitation of proxies to two months preceding a given election."
Elections Under Supervision.
To carry out these provisions the committee recommends that a special act be passed providing for the examination of the terms of existing policies. Court opinions are quoted, however, which, it is pointed out, favor the conclusion that such a law would be sustained. The committee believes that the law should be so amended as to leave no doubt about this matter.
Laws are recommended to safeguard the investments of the companies. It is specifically both as to real estate and stock holdings. It is deemed inadvisable for companies to hold any real estate except the buildings absolutely necessary for business purposes and property which may come to them in satisfaction of debts. Court opinions are quoted, however, which, it is pointed out, favor the conclusion that such a law would be sustained. The committee believes that the law should be so amended as to leave no doubt about this matter.
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Grand Falls News.

Grand Falls, Feb. 20.—William Pirie, sr., father of William Pirie, proprietor of the Minors Hotel, died on Saturday after a brief illness. Deceased, who was about 78 years of age, is survived by a wife and three sons and several daughters. Interment was made on Sunday morning in the Presbyterian cemetery and the funeral was largely attended.
Mrs. P. D. Bourgeois, who has been ill for several weeks, has taken a turn for the worse and her friends are now seriously alarmed over her condition.
Mrs. Thomas Kelly is also seriously ill. Mrs. Louise Lyons departed on Friday for Woodstock, where she will visit friends for several weeks.
Miss Alice Pirie is seriously ill.
Miss Jean Langton, Tilley, is visiting friends in town.
Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Cyr, St. Leonard, spent Sunday in town.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of J. C. Fitch
The employees of Waterbury & Rising held their annual sleigh drive Wednesday night to Torriburn.

Use Kendrick's Liniment