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THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH
THE EVENING TIMES

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Measures for the material progress and moral advancement of our great Dominion.
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No deals!
"The Whistle, Shamrock, Rose and the Maple Leaf" forever.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph
and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 16, 1913.

LET THE COUNTRY DECIDE

"It is established by the unwritten law of all British parliaments that when the Prime Minister introduces an important measure the opposition, through its leader, shall be heard upon it. In the innocence of my heart I rose upon that ground. You saw me, Mr. Speaker. In the exercise of that fair play which belongs indelibly to your office—that fair play which had been promised by the Prime Minister less than five minutes before—you called upon me to take the floor. In the spirit of that fair play, promised so solemnly by the Prime Minister, his colleague, the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, rose to ask you to take from me that privilege which was mine by constitutional right and give it to a member of the government. Every member on the other side of the house, from the Prime Minister, who had just made the promise of fair play, to his humblest supporter, rose to ask me."

These words of the honored statesman who leads the Liberal party will penetrate every constituency in the Dominion, and wherever they are read fair-minded men who favor free speech and honorable dealing will realize the nature of that which Mr. Borden and Mr. Hazen did in the House of Commons.

What is to be the result? We have the answer in the Conservative Ottawa Citizen. It says:

"If the naval bill is put through by closure methods, with the Liberals fighting bitterly for what many will consider the privilege of free speech and minority rights, the principal effect it will have will be to give the Senate new reason for existence and for exercising the veto power for which it was originally intended. The closure means a dangerous revolution in Canadian parliamentary methods. Its perils are clearly apparent to both parties alike. It might develop into a tool which in the hands of a less scrupulous government would expose the country to mercenary aims. Even though it is the only way remaining whereby the majority may enact particular legislation according to its will and desire, the permanent perils are greater than the immediate need."

"All of this the Senate will undoubtedly declare. It will willingly assume the role of 'saviour of the country.'"

If the Liberals are gagged by the new rules of debate which are being introduced by the methods which Sir Wilfrid Laurier has exposed, there is still left a way to compel the government to drop the bill or go to the country. Let the Liberal Senate throw the measure out, on the sound ground that its very nature demands that the electorate should have an opportunity to pass upon it. This action by the Senate would be applauded by the country. A policy relating to Imperial defence, to be effective, to be lasting, to serve the cause of Imperial unity, ought to commend itself to a great majority of the people of Canada. The Liberals in the House of Commons are confident that the country will condemn Mr. Borden's plan of tribute. The Liberals in the Senate share this view. It is, therefore, within the power of the Liberals in Parliament to dissent most effectively from Mr. Borden's policy of suppression and compel him to go before the electors and attempt to justify the introduction of

"ship money" by shutting off free speech and ignoring the decency of parliamentary procedure.

This country knows now how empty is the "emergency" plea. It knows that this Conservative anxiety to rush through the policy of tribute was not because Mr. Borden had his eyes upon the North Sea but because he had them upon Quebec. The country has seen how Mr. Borden's reluctance to order an election has grown as the weakness of his policy has been exposed and as the Liberal cause gained in every province.

Let the Senate do its duty. Let the country decide.

MAKING TARIFF BILLS

During the discussion of the last tariff bill in the United States, Mr. Seth Low said at the Republican Club in New York: "The vice of every tariff bill comes from the ease with which the well-informed special interests can hoodwink legislators who do not know the facts." It is not fact that when a man was made to carry into effect the trickery by which the honored leader of the opposition was to be denied the time-honored privilege of replying to the Prime Minister, Mr. Hazen was selected from 130 Conservative members as the man most fitted for the unpleasant work. The Standard takes issue with Mr. Carvell on this point, and says: "One would think that it was a compliment both to the Province of New Brunswick and the Minister himself that Mr. Hazen should be chosen to follow the Premier and take an important part in a struggle which will become historic."

Well, there is no accounting for tastes. A majority of the people of Canada will probably agree with Mr. Carvell in his opinion that it was no compliment to Mr. Hazen, or to the province which he represents, to be selected for this rather nasty piece of parliamentary tactics. If Mr. Hazen and the Standard enjoy the peculiar distinction, their attitude will merely provide a new means of measuring their idea of the proprieties.

The Standard tells its readers that Mr. Carvell has been accused "to paroxysms of anger," and that Hon. Mr. Pugsley is similarly disturbed, because they now feel that they can no longer obstruct the country's business. But they have not obstructed the country's business. The Liberals have cheerfully voted supply, and expressed a willingness to deal with the West India trust and other important matters. What they have done also is to object, and most effectively, to the Borden-Rogers-Hazen plan for preventing reasonable public discussion of Mr. Borden's "ship money" scheme. The Standard, in childish vein, accuses Mr. Carvell of being "bores," and "cross," and "vexed," and "peevish," and "petulant," and "insolent," to select a few of its adjectives at random; and it complains bitterly that his speeches have occupied more columns of Hansard than those of any other member of Parliament with two exceptions, Mr. Carvell always says something worth listening to, and his constituency will read with interest this Tory tribute to his useful activity in the House of Commons.

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Our contemporary says that the Liberals are now "gnashing their teeth and raging furiously," and that "the whole country is laughing at them." The Standard can scarcely hope to persuade even the most hardened Tory by mere repetition of foolish assertions. If there is any laughter in the country it is certainly not at the expense of the Liberals. From every province the Liberal leaders have had messages of congratulation, and it is known that throughout Canada the Liberal party has been cheered and inspired by the stiff fighting carried on by Sir Wilfrid and his lieutenants at Ottawa. Again and again Mr. Borden has been challenged to face this issue to the country. Again and again he has dodged and sought refuge in every conceivable pretext in clinging to power. If the Standard has any faith in its own foolish and violent assertions why does it not propose a simple cure for all the evils of which it complains—namely, a general election?

It is unfair of our contemporary to thrust upon Mr. Hazen the questionable distinction of having been used by Messrs. Borden and Rogers to deny to the leader of the opposition the privilege to which he was clearly entitled by all parliamentary practice. This set of Mr. Hazen's, which the Standard celebrates so excitedly, was a bit of trickery of which no one can possibly be proud. And, in this connection, it must be noted that Mr. Hazen's activities at Ottawa thus far have conferred distinction neither upon himself nor his province. His own party cannot but be grievously disappointed because he has not gained more influence in the House of Commons and become more useful to the province which sent him to Ottawa.

STUDY THE FACTS
Mr. Redfield, the Secretary of Commerce at Washington, speaking recently before the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association, said that no one knew how large a "trust" can grow before it becomes inefficient. He recommended study of the problem by the bureau of corporations. "The air has been full for years past of the discussion of trusts," said Mr. Redfield. "It is alleged that trusts are necessary for our industrial efficiency. There has been discussion as to whether trusts are, as a matter of fact, industrially efficient. We do not know. We are dealing with them as a national menace, whereas the fact may be that they menace chiefly themselves. Whether this is true or not, I do not pretend to say. I venture to hope that the bureau of corporations may learn what the real facts are."

The whole question is one of facts. In every case where the government sought to dissolve a trust the burden of the disputation has been visited on the consumer.

The country is hoping the Senate will send Mr. Borden to the people. If he will not go willingly, his hand must be forced. The electors want an opportunity to say that the \$35,000,000 shall be spent at home.

MR. HAZEN'S "DEFENCE"

Mr. Hazen, according to the Standard, "needs no defence, and talk by his enemies cannot injure him." Probably that is one reason why the Standard daily devotes a column or so of its editorial space to defending Mr. Hazen and denouncing his opponents. Having said again and again that this course is unnecessary, the Standard continues to pursue it. Of course, it is easy to understand why the Standard is anxious on Mr. Hazen's account and why it continually has him on its editorial mind. It was Mr. Hazen who sent back the Cammell Laird deposit and so cut St. John off from its ripened opportunity to secure a great shipbuilding plant at Courtenay Bay. It will require considerable Standard ink to blot out that particular transgression. And there are others.

Mr. Carvell, of Carleton County, a hard-hitting Liberal, directed attention in the House of Commons on Thursday to the fact that when a man was made to carry into effect the trickery by which the honored leader of the opposition was to be denied the time-honored privilege of replying to the Prime Minister, Mr. Hazen was selected from 130 Conservative members as the man most fitted for the unpleasant work. The Standard takes issue with Mr. Carvell on this point, and says: "One would think that it was a compliment both to the Province of New Brunswick and the Minister himself that Mr. Hazen should be chosen to follow the Premier and take an important part in a struggle which will become historic."

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The whole question is one of facts. In every case where the government sought to dissolve a trust the burden of the disputation has been visited on the consumer.

He has had to pay the bill. Nothing is gained by taking for granted that the trust is such an evil. It may be a natural evolution of business and a means of greatly decreasing the cost of production, or it may be, as Mr. Redfield suggests, industrially inefficient and its own worst enemy. The question whether the acquisition of so much power as is controlled by a few through amalgamation is good or evil, depends on the use which is made of that power. Trusts and captains of industry may accumulate millions, not only without robbing others, but in the process of benefiting others. Captains of industry serve the same function as the inventors of labor-saving devices. The manufacturers of harvesters and agricultural implements lowered the cost of wheat, and not only lowered the cost but made it possible to market one hundred bushels where only one was marketed before. But if the managers of the harvesters trust grind their workmen, cheat their creditors, unfairly crush their competitors, buy legislatures and cynically defy public opinion, it is a different question altogether. Yet even this misuse of power does not prove the power an evil. It is not the gun, but the man who wrongs, who directs the gun we condemn. To condemn a trust because a bad use has been made of it, is like condemning a razor because some fool made another use of it than shaving. Men may use power to their own and their brother's hurt, but the power only becomes evil when it is used for a selfish and vain purpose.

That other uses have been made of great concentrations of capital, all modern progress testifies. To take one example from many thousands: Baron Hirsch formed a trust in transportation and amassed a princely fortune by giving to the Balkan States new and improved transportation. There was no employment of capital. To the men in skirts and turbans, Hirsch brought railways and covered the whole country with his lines. A new wealth came into existence, and the toll that made the magnate's fortune was only a small fraction of the enormous gain he brought these communities by his organizing power. It is possible that greater efficiency can be obtained through concentration, than through separate organizations, and if greater efficiency is secured it must result in the increase of human wealth. The right, or the wrong is not in the power itself but in the controlling spirit behind the power. The debased manager of power can be reached by law, whether the power he is using is a debased way in wealth, or brains, or influence of any kind. It is not possible to resolve the trusts into their primary parts, but it would appear to be possible to require a higher standard of morals and character in the persons who control power and wealth. The chief difficulty, indeed, is not defect of law so much as defect of character. No condemnation is so severe for the turpitude that uses wrongly the power which has such possibilities for good.

THE PLAGUES OF EGYPT—AND LATER ONES

The Woman's Social and Political Union, the organization of the militant suffragettes, says in its annual report: "The parallel between Pharaoh visited by the plagues of Egypt and the present situation of the Liberal government visited by militant more and more drastic, is complete." The different plagues that visited the much perplexed and harassed Pharaoh are set forth quite minutely in the following records. In the first, the waters of the sacred river, the river of Egypt, are turned into blood, so that the fish in the river died, and the Egyptians could not drink of the water, and they dug round about for water to drink. In the second, the waters of the river are again smitten so that they are full of frogs, and the frogs came up into the house and into the chambers, and into the ovens, and into the kneading-troughs, and upon all the people. In the third plague, when Aaron stretched forth his hand the dust of the earth was turned to lice, and these swarmed upon man and beast. The next plague was one of flies, which swarmed upon the whole land excepting the land of Goshen where the peculiar people dwelt. The whole land outside of Goshen was corrupted by the swarming flies and no swatting could abate their number.

The next plague was a grievous murrain upon the cattle of Egypt, and upon the asses and upon the camels, and upon the herds and the flocks. As Pharaoh's heart is still hardened, Moses takes a handful of ashes from a furnace and sprinkles it toward heaven in the sight of the king, and the ashes become a boil breaking forth with blains upon man and upon beast. But the king still exalts himself against the pilgrims and will not let them go, so his people are smitten with the pestilence and many of them die; and the pestilence is followed by a hail such as had not been in Egypt since the day it had been founded, even until then. No man or beast is able to stand before the hail. But this is not enough, and the land is then covered with locusts, and very green thing in all the land of Egypt. The locusts are followed by darkness, so thick that no man can see the face of his fellow for the space of three days. Last plague of all, to that strange, eventful history, the Lord went out about midnight into the midst of Egypt; and all the first-born of the land of Egypt died, from the first-born of the Pharaoh on the throne even unto the first-born of the maid-servant that was behind the mill; and all the first-born of cattle. Even the sacred bull, which this darkened people worshipped was not immune from the dread visitation. But there is absolutely no parallel between the desires of the people of the land of Goshen and the militants of England. The former wished to go on a pilgrimage for three days into the wilderness, and for a period of forty years into the desert of Arabia. The plagues came because the great king would not let them go. But let the militants of England profess such a request to Mr. Asquith, this

modern Pharaoh. He will move heaven and earth to expedite their passage. He may not be able to make the floods stand upright in a heap that they may pass over the channel dry-shod, but there is no ass that has ever been troubled by a feel over which he would not eagerly and safely transport them to any desired haven where they would be. They have only to express the wish, they have only to give him the opportunity, and his chariots will run lightly under the earth and on the earth, and his ships to the uttermost bounds of ocean to transport them far—anything so long as they have not a round trip ticket. No plague of flies or of boils or a grievous murrain on cattle are necessary to add to his eagerness. Mr. Asquith will let them go even to serve strange gods in the wilderness—anything to get them out of England. To make them pilgrims and strangers is his great desire.

Their earlier prototypes left a land and found a sorry death; the English militants would leave a glad England and find perhaps a welcome in some land where they would forget their stratagems, snares and duplicities. There, in league with headed knights full of a common purpose, they might forget their present obsession and erect some new monument of a great pilgrimage. But before visiting Mr. Asquith with the plagues of Pharaoh, or even with the lesser plagues that the magicians of Egypt could bring about by their enchantments, it is only fair that Mr. Asquith should have the same opportunity of refusing to the militants the request that Pharaoh refused to the Sons of Joseph.

THE PUBLIC AND PUBLIC UTILITIES

That municipal ownership pays in dollars and cents has been sufficiently demonstrated, but its chief value is in the new spirit it creates in the cities that have undertaken it extensively. England is today being democratized by its cities. The Lords are reactionary, and the privileged classes in the Commons are continually seeking to extend their influence, while from the cities the people are being awakened to a larger life through the political forces that are aroused by co-operative endeavor. New issues are being raised about the taxation of land values, the housing of the poor, the improvement in the condition of labor, the standard of living among the people, the municipalization of monopolies; and these new issues are directly due to the increase in public ownership or municipal trading as it is called in England. The effects of the movement have been to stimulate citizenship. If a city acquires a street car system, the opening is an occasion of public rejoicing. The people feel that in supporting the cars they are using their own property, and they take a just pride in the neat appearance of the cars and in the service the systems offers. They come to have an affectionate regard for these agencies; a new sense of responsibility is awakened by ownership.

It seems almost absurd to speak of people having an affectionate interest in a street car system, but that is the experience of many English cities, and of all cities where this utility is owned by the people and run in their interest instead of in the interest of the shareholders and directors. This side of public ownership does not appear on the balance sheet, but its importance is quite obvious estimate and its effects upon the public most inspiring.

That municipal ownership is profitable from the point of view of the balance sheet, a recent editorial in the Boston Traveler demonstrates. Says the editor of the Traveler: "Is it true that, even at this late day in the development of government, it would be impossible to serve the people through municipal instrumentalities as well as the people of England are served? Take, for example, the city of Leeds, which makes such excellent profit from gas, water and street railways that the highway rate is but half what otherwise it would be, and more than \$10,000,000 has been expended in practically rebuilding the whole of the central part of the city."

"It may be that the people of this country are not yet sufficiently educated in self-government to undertake more than is already undertaken, but even now Boston is doing many things which, if the opponents of municipalization were consistent, they would oppose at every step. It is only when a proposition to municipalize crosses the plans of vested interests that its utility and wickedness are promptly set forth for the instruction of those who swallow what they are told to swallow, if eminently respectable practitioners, in the form of gifted counsel, administer the medicine."

"As a case of towns in Great Britain are reaping direct profit for their people by methods which, if we are to accept the dictum of learned counsel, American municipalities must never adopt under the most favorable conditions."

A ROUGH CRITIC

The London Nation intimates that Canada will have no more royal dukes at Ottawa, and that some of the vice-regal party gave offence recently in the Canadian capital by showing partiality towards the Tory cause. If so the fact seems to have escaped notice in Canada. If some of the younger or less important members of the Governor-General's suite, whose political colors openly, no one in Ottawa attached much importance to the matter, though the question of taste may have been a passing subject of conversation. The Nation's tone is too serious. It says, in its "London Diary":

"It is generally understood that a new Governor-General for Canada is not far distant. It is no disparagement to the Duke's tact and good sense to say that the second experiment of associating the Royal Family with the Governor-Generalship has been no more successful than the first. How could it be? Our governing system is mainly adapted to the colonies from its parliamentary side. But courts are not so

constituted as to stand the Atlantic voyage. Not only do the colonies take kindly to the race of Bernades and Stillings who hem in a royal personage, but there is neither a landed gentry nor a military society to bridge the gulf between royalty and the mass of work-day people, such as Canadians and Australians are."

This writer goes on to say: "Moreover—again no blame to the Duke—there is little doubt that royalty has been used to cover and excuse a good deal of social ostracism of Liberals in Ottawa. A well-informed correspondent, for example, writes me that during the naval debate attended to hear Mr. Borden's speech, Laurier spoke, came two days later to hear Mr. Foster, and left when the answering Liberal began his speech. There was, says my informant, a great deal of feeling among Liberals at these untoward incidents, and only Sir Wilfrid's courtesy averted a public reference in the House. What is really wanted in Canada is the same kind of broad representation of Liberal thought and feeling that Mr. Bryce has supplied to the States. Let us hope that this will be thought of when the next Governor-General is appointed."

There was no such feeling or talk in responsible circles at Ottawa as would justify the Nation's tone. The article contains a sort of implied refection upon the Duke of Connaught which Canadians will regret. Nevertheless, it is a fact that the presence of royalty in Ottawa encourages the widening of a set of high-headed Canadian infatuations who are no credit to this sensible and practical country. This is no fault of the Duke, or of any Governor-General. It is unavoidable so long as Canada produces an increasing number of "climbers" by whom recognition from their "social superiors" is prized above rubies.

A DILEMMA

The Standard quotes certain utterances of Hon. Mr. Pugsley and Mr. Carvell, when their party was in power, in favor of such alterations of the rules of procedure as would permit the passage of the reciprocity measure. Reciprocity had long been the Liberal programme, and the party had a clear mandate for its introduction. But the Standard says that its quotations are an unanswerable indictment of the Liberal attitude of today. If that be true, no doubt the Standard is ready to apply the same reasoning to its own party. That is unavoidable. When in 1910, that he favored a Canadian navy, to be built in this country "out of our own material, by the instructed skill of our own people," and when Mr. Foster protested eloquently against "hiring out our fighting," no doubt they meant what they said; consequently, by the Standard's reasoning, the Conservative position on the navy today is utterly wrong and quite untenable.

Reference to previous utterances on either side of the House is an exercise which the Liberals can much better afford than the government. Will the Standard pursue the argument? In political controversy our contemporary will find, as it grows in years and experience, that it is not possible to have one's cake and eat it too.

NOTE AND COMMENT

Build the ships at home. That is the desire of the Canadian people. If Mr. Borden doubts it let him go to the country.

How long is New Brunswick going to permit the West to lure away our school teachers by higher salaries than we pay? A teacher who is worth \$10,000, or \$2,000, or \$3,000 a year in Alberta is worth just as much here. This competition must be met in the only effective way possible—by paying the market price.

The authorities of the city and of the county of St. John ought to know precisely when the St. John Railway Company is going to make that extension to Kane's Corner. A year has been lost through unnecessary dillying, and there should be no willingness on the part of the city and county to lose another. In fact, there should be evidence of a stiff determination to permit no further waste of time.

One of the peculiar features of the Borden naval policy is the proviso that any ships contributed by Canada shall be in addition to the regular British programme. Thus, Canada's contribution would afford no relief to the taxpayers of the United Kingdom. It was an ungracious provision for Mr. Borden to put forward. As he does not propose to man or maintain his Dreadnoughts, the people of the British Isles may be tempted to remember the warning about looking a gift horse in the mouth.

The white of an egg, whipped stiff with a ripe banana, makes a delicious cream to be eaten on a simple chocolate pudding.

HAMPTON COUPLE'S WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Hampton, N. B., April 11—A most enjoyable evening was spent tonight at the home of Registrar F. M. Sproul, it being the thirtieth anniversary of his wedding. Some thirty people, self-invited, were present and singing, recitations and games were participated in and heartily enjoyed. During the evening Sheriff Freeze presented the couple on behalf of the donors with an address and a bouquet of thirty carnations, and a china tea set.

Wherever there's a den there's a nager. Mock-balls'll turnish a den uniform.

Tory government to stand pat in fiscal matters. The time must soon come when the demand for an increase in the British preference will be too strong to be resisted. And how long under present conditions can Mr. Borden afford to keep a duty on farm implements and farm machinery?

The tax rate in Halifax this year is \$1.90 as compared with \$1.96 last year. It would have been higher this year had not the assessors increased the valuation of property by \$1,800,000. Following the same course here, but carrying it a little nearer its logical conclusion, St. John's rate level. We shall know presently how nearly the commissioners and the assessors have lived up to the idea of making some redistribution of the tax burden, and what approach they have made to equity. Taxation reform needs more attention in St. John, and the appearance of this year's tax bills will enable the public to see whether the progressive idea in taxation matters is going to be followed. St. John should now be beginning the gradual exemption of improvements from taxation.

GOOD PROGRESS BEING MADE IN THE SURVEYS

Suburban Railway Company to Have Definite Plans for Commissioners in Near Future—Four Parties at Work.

Saturday, Apr. 12.—The city commissioners met representatives from the Suburban Railway Company yesterday afternoon and talked over street railway matters generally. There was no definite proposition made to the commissioners, but as soon as the preliminary surveys have been completed the railway people will submit a definite plan of the work to be done.

Percy W. Thomson, told The Telegraph last night that fairly good progress was being made with the surveying work and that about six miles was covered each day by the four parties. When the different routes have been gone over the engineers and the directors of the company will decide on which line will be started first.

The city commissioners will then have a chance to say just what they will do in regard to the use of the streets and regulations of the traffic.

FROM ALL OVER THE MARITIME PROVINCES

(Continued from page 3.)
Miss Jennie Sullivan is spending a couple of weeks in Moncton with her aunt, Mrs. James Brown.

Among those who are attending the horse show at Amherst this week are Mayor and Mrs. Spicer, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Fullerton, Miss Alice Smith, Miss Alice Atkins, H. C. Jenks, C. E. Day, Laurie Gibson and Noble Cameron.

Mr. and Mrs. Manning Osborne, of the Josephs have been spending a few days with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Pugsley.

William Lavers has gone to Kingston (N.B.) to visit his sister, Mrs. Lawrence.

Walter Callow arrived home from Digby last week.

Joseph Lavers, of Southampton, spent Sunday in town with his sister, Mrs. Cusbury.

Howard McKay, of St. John, is visiting his mother, Mrs. McKay, at Riverside.

Captain and Mrs. W. F. Durant, Jr. have returned from Boston where they have been for several weeks.

Miss Bertha Ross, of Athol, is visiting her aunt, Mrs. J. G. Holmes.

Miss Bessie Kirkpatrick has been visiting friends in Port Greenville for the past week.

David Lavers is spending the week at his home in Southampton.

Will Walsh is spending a few days in Atlantic visiting his uncle, Mr. James Ritchie.

Miss Nellie Gulderson has returned from Oxford, where she has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Jeffers.

Mrs. George Jeffers entertained the members of the Methodist choir at her home in Lakeshore one evening last week. A most enjoyable evening was spent.

ABE MARTIN

The white of an egg, whipped stiff with a ripe banana, makes a delicious cream to be eaten on a simple chocolate pudding.

NEW CONTRACT IN ATLANTIC MAIL SERVICE

Mr. Pelletier Explains Government's Policy Has Made

TWELVE SHIPS TO DO IT

Service Three Times a Week and Twice a Week Company to Select The for Landing Mails—Hockey's Questions.

(Hansard, April 11.)

Hon. L. P. Pelletier (Post 11).—Before the orders of the day, I have an important question to place before the house with the order in council appended. Were it in order, I give some explanation of it, I stand I cannot do so without the consent of the house.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—I am to the Atlantic mail service? Mr. Pelletier—Yes.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—I house would like to hear it.

Mr. Speaker—Is it the house that the hon. member make the explanation.

Some hon. members—Yes. Mr. Pelletier—A contract for the mail has been made on behalf of the government, acting minister of trade and commerce, and myself as general. The contract, as I for the ocean mail service, make a brief explanation. Up to the time the Canadian Atlantic mail has been done with four steamships, and the service once a week. Some other small amounts in connection with it, but in the past, a the ocean mail service for Canada carried on through the port of St. John. We have now entered into a der which we expect we will take care of our own Canadian mail to the mother country.

The postal union regulations, all other countries, take care of part of its mail transportation for that part which Canada, a country cannot take care of, it country whose port the mail their destination, rates which the postal union. For the last 20, Canada has been paying 600 a year for the Canadian mail England via New York. I am that; there was a good deal of it, because Canada was taking care of its own mails, but we expect it is now. How this against that, we have this new contract under which having four steamships leaving ports with Canadian mails, twelve steamers.

The New Service.