

General Business.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, N. B., DECEMBER 20, 1900.

Still Another "Liberal" Convention. As we go to press one of those political conventions, of which there was such a plentiful and amusing crop just after the Dominion elections of 1896 is about to be held in Chatham. It is called by a gentleman from Newcastle, in the name of the Liberal party, ostensibly for the promotion of the interests of Northumberland and, presumably, to further strengthen the hands of the Minister of Railways and Canals, who is rightly the recognised political leader of the Province.

Many of the Minister's most tried and trusted friends, however, do not appear to be in sympathy with the meeting, for the reason that at least three of the gentlemen who are said to be acting together in managing it have, until very recently, been denouncing the minister and praying for his defeat and downfall. Like the honorable Geo. E. Foster, it has been his ambition to assist in driving him out of public life.

In this connection it is not necessary to refer more particularly to the lesser of the trio than to say that only as recently as a week or two before the election of 7th November they repudiated the idea of Mr. Blair having anything to say as to who should be the candidate for Northumberland; while no little of the political stock in trade of the convenor of the meeting has been, for years, denunciatory howling against and misrepresentation of the same gentleman in connection with "the Northumberland deal." Everybody, from Esquimaux and Tracadie Bridge to Doistown knows that the convenor of the meeting has represented Mr. Blair in the darkest colors, because he gave to Northumberland the measure of justice which was involved in that arrangement, which, instead of deserving adverse criticism from any honest man, was to be commended on the grounds of both justice and good politics.

It is a little singular, too, that after denouncing the lumbermen of the county, casting slurs on "spruce log" politicians, arguing that the lumbermen had bought the local government and that the sealers of lumber had no regard for their oaths, the person so indiscreet and reckless as to give utterance to such insults to his fellow citizens, should have the assurance to ask them to assemble under his auspices for political purposes.

It is, however, said that notwithstanding all this, quite a number of open and secret sympathisers with the warfare which the convenor of the meeting has waged against the best men and interests of Northumberland were to act with him last night in promoting the objects of his alleged Liberal meeting.

We venture to say, however, that they will not get very far with their undertaking. The party fealty which is born only of the prospects of political patronage is not of much value. None of the Liberal associations that have been formed since that which was given its death-blow in 1891 by some of the men who are now trying to buoy up their sinking political influence by such meetings as that of last night, can have any material effect upon the people of Northumberland. Such combinations are formed for selfish purposes. They are born only when there is patronage to be dispensed, and they die from failure to realise the purposes of their coming into being. That is always their inevitable fate. Their organizers are of the class who think that they are born with "a mission." They engage in political activities for what they can make out of doing so. They make the mistake of imagining that heaven or "the other place," destined them to be "bosses" in politics. They think, because they are ninety-five out of every hundred men do not constantly talk politics, that these quiet people want leaders, and they try to force themselves on them in that capacity. They have no conception of the duties and responsibilities of public men. They never, by their connection with public life, endeavor to elevate it or present to those whom they invite to follow them any higher ideals than loaves and fishes. They forget that only a few are interested as they are in politics—for what it will put in their pockets. They are of the class who, themselves, do little work, but are always laboring to make work for themselves. They have no inclination to promote the industries of the country. They are envious of those who have such inclinations and delight in setting their employees against them. Every employer is, from their point of view, a tyrant and oppressor and each of them is a Moses who is ordained to liberate and lead them to the promised land. And, after all, they themselves live and agitate and are enabled to make of themselves a menace and nuisance because they would starve but for the existence of what they denounce.

Fortunately, however, they are able to cajole only the few, for the people generally are too well-informed to be misled by them to any appreciable extent.

The I. C. B. and The Times. The ADVANCE called attention last week to the regular and daily delay of the north bound Maritime Express, and suggested a reform of the time table, indicating, at the same time, that the difficulty seemed to be in the Cape Breton connection.

The Moncton Times, which is ever on the alert for an opportunity to make capital against the government, as it was to shield those whose wretched and corrupt management of the Intercolonial became a scandal, and very largely contributed to the change which took place in the control of Canada's affairs in 1896, pounces upon our remarks and misrepresents them for its own purposes. In an article headed: "Chaos on the I. C. R." the Times stated that "The ADVANCE is obliged to denounce the arrangement of trains between North Shore points."

It is almost a waste of time and, certainly, a lowering of the dignity of any reputable paper to enter into discussion with the Times, but it seems right to say that, as the ADVANCE did not refer to the arrangement of trains between North Shore points, it could not have denounced it. As a matter of fact, there has been no difficulty or loss of time on the North Shore. What we did say, however, was true, viz.—that the Cape Breton, or "Sydney" trains seem to be responsible for the delays to which we referred. It is to be hoped that the arrangements will be so changed as to admit of the train from Sydney, connecting with the Maritime Express, leaving that place an hour or two earlier than it now does. This would, no doubt, remedy the serious delays that are complained of. In matters of this kind, the ADVANCE always states the facts and endeavors to point out the best remedy suggested. It has no reason to go beyond that. If it did so and devoted itself to misrepresenting other papers' statements on such subjects, and maligning public men, as the Times does, it would deserve to occupy the contemptible position held by that peculiarly conducted journal.

A LUMBER FIRM'S FAILURE.—The lumber firm of Pierce, Watts & Co., Liverpool, has failed. Some New Brunswick shippers are losers, but to what extent is not known at present. It is also rumored that another English lumber firm is in difficulties. The cause of the trouble is said to be that a number of small firms who took contracts ahead were unable, owing to the advance in steel and other building materials, to carry out their obligations.

Unfair Politics. (St. John Globe.) Ontario Conservatives never appear to be satisfied unless they are uttering dangerous cries of one kind or another. At one time it is racial cry, their raising French domination must be removed; at another time it is the religious cry that is heard—papal aggression must be resisted. Sometimes, when it serves a purpose, the cry is raised against the Maritime Provinces. In the recent general election the Maritime Provinces pronounced very strongly against the Conservative party, and now we have the Toronto Mail, the chief Conservative organ, protesting vigorously against the payment of the just claims of these provinces. The burden of its claim is that Ontario pays the larger share of these moneys, and it thus seeks to arouse Ontario feeling against the lower provinces. In an editorial article headed "Ontario Pays for Tails," the Mail says: "Mr. Blair has that province [New Brunswick] into serious liabilities, and then announced that Ottawa should pay the bill. A provincial general election was carried on this plank a year or so ago. Since then certain railway claims have been submitted to arbitration. Last spring some of these claims were heard. The chief witness for the Dominion in this arbitration was—whom do you suppose? Mr. Blair! The politician who had advanced the claims on behalf of the province in order that the treasury his extravagance had emptied might be replenished, as Minister of Railways for Canada, the principal witness on Canada's behalf. He, of course, admitted everything, and by a fortunate turn of events the award of the arbitrators conceding a very considerable sum of money was made a week or ten days before the polling of November took place.

The reference is to the Eastern Extension claim. The uninformed reader—doubtless many Ontario men who do not pay particular attention to New Brunswick affairs—would suppose that there was some great scandal hidden here. The Mail, of course, knew the whole truth, but it conceals all important facts. It knew that the claim was a very old one. It knew that it was first put forward by leading Conservatives when they had control of provincial affairs. It knew that Mr. Blair, when provincial premier, had continually pressed it upon Conservative governments at Ottawa. What was more reasonable than that Mr. Blair, with a full knowledge of the facts, should, when he became a member of the Federal government, seek to have a fair settlement of the long-existing grievance? And what fairer method of settlement than arbitration could be devised? In selecting an arbitrator from New Brunswick politics was not allowed to interfere. The gentleman selected, when in public life, had been an active Conservative politician. He had been opposed to Mr. Blair in provincial politics. The arbitrators made a unanimous award in favor of the provincial claims, and thereupon the Mail, for base political purposes, sets up a cry that "Ontario has to pay this," and endeavors to prejudice the people of the upper provinces against the lower provinces. It is a poor business—just as bad as the Mail's racial and religious cries, and it is one that is calculated to do mischief.

The Laurier Banquet. The banquet for the Libera's of Halifax to Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his cabinet ministers took place last Thursday evening and was the most magnificent political demonstration ever held in Nova Scotia. It came off in The Armories and the number of guests was upwards of five hundred.

The cabinet ministers present with the Premier were Hon. W. S. Fielding, Sir L. H. Davies, Hon. W. Paterson, Hon. J. I. Tarte and Hon. Clifford Sifton. The chairman was Mr. George Faulkner, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier sat on his right and Hon. Mr. Fielding on his left. There was a grand demonstration of welcome as the ministers came into the room, and this was renewed as the Premier of Nova Scotia's, the Premier of Prince Edward Island and Mr. Alexander Johnston, who best Sir Charles Tupper, made their appearance. The guests were seated at eleven tables, joined at the top by a cross table, at which were seated the guests of honor. A splendid menu was served.

The first toast, the Queen, was received with all honors, and then came "Our Leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier." There were many fine speeches besides that of the Premier, those of his colleagues in the cabinet and by the members of the Dominion Parliament and Local Legislatures all being splendid efforts.

The Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier upon rising was greeted with long, loud and enthusiastic applause; the whole audience rising and cheering loudly. The Premier warmly and heartily thanked the audience for their generous reception and said: "If it has been my good fortune, as leader of the Liberal party, to do so, to depart myself as to cordial to those men, old and young, who in good report and bad report, upheld the principles of the Liberal party, I have achieved a victory far dearer to me indeed than when we achieved that victory on the 7th day of November last. (Applause.) It has been my good fortune to lead the party successfully, and it was because of all things that I endeavored to uphold justice and all generosity, which in all times and in all ages has been the standard of the Liberal party, that by upholding these principles the Liberal party achieved its great success a short time ago.

Sir Wilfrid then in a bold and eloquent terms referred to the able and eloquent claims were heard. The chief witness for the Dominion, mentioning some of her illustrious sons, paying a warm tribute to the retired leader of the Conservative party, Sir Charles Tupper. "Like Moses his life was prolonged to the generation which followed the generation in which he was born—like Moses he did not carry his party to the promised land—(applause) he did not carry his party to the promised land, but left that task to be performed some time—some day by some Joshua, still unknown and perhaps still unborn." Sir Wilfrid referred at some length to the relations between Canada and the motherland, relations that were fixed in 1897 by the tariff brought forward by a son of Nova Scotia, who had given a preference to the motherland—a preference that had realized all its expectations. The Premier then declared that Canada's relations with the United States, while friendly and cordial, are not in his judgment as friendly and cordial as they should be. We have to settle several differences of interest, and both sides of the questions contain views upon which men will differ, but when strong men cannot settle their differences of opinion there is only two ways—and we hope to settle one of two ways, either by arbitration or by mutual honorable compromise. For my part I have no hesitation in saying, strong British subject as I am (great applause), among Canadian as I am (cheers), that I am a friend of the great American nation. (Hear, hear.) I have an affection and admiration for that great people every day I live. To love one's country with a love to which it is entitled is a good thing, but we should not hate another country bordering on our own. It is by adhering to our principle, by remaining true to British subjects, true Canadians, that I want to settle our differences with our neighbors to the south of us. We know that the present government are friends—they know that, and with those friends I will always be ready to meet them, to give them that due them, but to claim at the same time what is our due. (Great applause.)

The discussion, which was carried on by Messrs. Tintoomb, Wilson, Smith and Jones developed the great need of assimilating the fishery laws along the border and the following resolution was finally adopted unanimously:— "Whereas the laws of New York state prohibit the use of nets in Lake Champlain; and "Whereas the laws of Vermont are so framed that the fish and game commissioners of that state are prohibited from fishing, except at such times and under such conditions as exist with reference to the laws of the Dominion of Canada; and "Whereas, it would be heretofore in violation of the laws of the Dominion of Canada to issue licenses to fish in the Canadian waters of Lake Champlain (Missisquoi Bay) causes the destruction of many tons of walleye pike during their migrations to their spawning grounds; and "Whereas it is the desire of both the New York and Vermont commissioners of fisheries that the use of nets be prohibited in the Province of Quebec."

The moose question came up next, being introduced by Mr. Jones. The discussion of the subject occupied considerable time. Dr. MacCallum wished to be informed as to the narrow limits of the breeding season. In Ontario the shooting of Virginia deer was only allowed during the first fifteen days in November. Still they were not sure as to what was the proper season for moose, and would like to have it limited to a short season as possible.

Mr. Smith said that it began early in September in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Mr. Bramble said that his experience was that the season for moose was earlier in 15, but this year, in Ontario and Quebec, they were not on the rut quite so early, though all the big moose were off by October 1. The big bulls were off the rut the earliest, and their horns were off by November 15. Ontario seemed to be divided by nature into two distinct districts. In southern Ontario the moose were pretty well gone, but in the northern and western parts of the province he had not thought it possible that the animals could be in the enormous numbers in which they were there found. He referred particularly to the country about Nipissing and Temagami, and the Height of Land. It was a country which was not inhabited, and unless minerals were found, it never would be. He did not think that moose should be shot under three years of age, as it was the largest head that was worth having. He likewise thought that one man should be limited to one moose.

Mr. Cormier was of opinion that if the winter was mild, moose would retain their antlers nearly up to March, but if the winter was very cold, they would shed them earlier. Mr. Usher moved: "That the open season for moose shall generally be from September 15 to November 30, inclusive; but that for certain sections of provinces or states where moose are decreasing, it may be desirable to make partial or entirely closed seasons."

Mr. Smith thought they could hardly consider the close season for moose without having regard to that for caribou, and red deer. The open season should run to say 15th December. If the seasons did not run concurrently, men would find the color of hunting kind of animal also hunt the other. At all events, it was too much to expect that if the local hunter, at least, came across a caribou when hunting moose, or vice versa, he would refrain from having a shot. Mr. Jones observed that in the eastern part of Quebec the open season was from September 10 to January 1, which he thought, was too long.

Mr. Fiske did not think that the pothunter was so much to blame for the slaughter of big game as the lumberman, who thus provided his camp with meat for the whole winter. Something should be done to make him suffer. CARIBOU AND DEER. The motion was then adopted, after which Mr. Cormier remarked that in zone No. 2, Quebec, he thought the caribou season should be a little later; it extended from September 1 to March 1.

Mr. Jones said that zone No. 2 comprised a district where the people lived mostly by hunting, and the season had, therefore, been made longer. Mr. MacCallum—"Still that does not prevent outsiders coming in." Mr. Jones—"No; but there is no communication; it is the Labrador district."

Mr. Smith thought that there were districts where the caribou season would have to be extended, and he moved: "That it is the sense of this committee that it is desirable that the open season for caribou should be, if possible, concurrent as to dates with that of moose; but as it is recognized that in northern districts a longer season may be desirable, we recommend that great care be observed in the matter of extending the caribou season beyond that for moose."

Mr. Jones, whilst personally favoring the resolution, was afraid that it would not carry in the Quebec Legislature. The motion was then agreed to, as was also the following, proposed by Mr. Usher seconded by Mr. Smith: "That the open season for red deer should be concurrent with that for moose; but in districts where red deer are few in number, it is desirable that the open season be further restricted."

Mr. Cormier spoke of limiting the number of animals to be killed by one hunter, and moved: "That the number of moose, caribou and deer killed by one hunter during a single season be limited to one moose, one caribou and two deer."

This was seconded by Dr. Drummond and adopted. GAME BIRDS. The question of the spring shooting of game birds was then taken up, and it was moved by Mr. MacCallum, seconded by Mr. Wilson: "That it is the sense of this committee, and we so recommend, that spring shooting, or the killing of game birds in the spring, be abolished, and that the open season be from September 15 to December 31, inclusive."

After long discussion the resolution was agreed to. At the Friday session a resolution of the previous day regarding the open season for grouse and partridge was divided into the two following motions, proposed by Dr. MacCallum, and seconded by Mr. Cormier, which were adopted:— "That the open season be from September 15 to December 15 for all species of grouse, with the exception of ptarmigan."

"That this committee suggest that the general open season for woodcock, snipe, and duck of all kinds, including swans and geese, rail plover and other birds, known as game birds or waterfowl, shall be from the 15th day of September and the 15th day of December."

WOLVES. It was moved by Mr. Bramble—"That, whereas, wolves are very numerous in many parts of Quebec and Ontario, and also sufficiently numerous in New Brunswick, to be a detriment to the game supply, that this association is impressed with the necessity of issuing licenses to fish in the Canadian waters of Lake Champlain (Missisquoi Bay) causes the destruction of many tons of walleye pike during their migrations to their spawning grounds; and "Whereas it is the desire of both the New York and Vermont commissioners of fisheries that the use of nets be prohibited in the Province of Quebec."

The committee adjourned shortly before one o'clock, the members accepting the invitation of the chairman to luncheon at the Place Viger Hotel. EXPORT OF GAME. The first business after luncheon was consideration of the following, which was moved by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Seymour: "That this committee recommends that the possession, sale, or exportation of all game birds or animals shall be prohibited after the expiry of fifteen days after the close of the open season for the birds or animals, as the case may be, in each state or province in which killed, each article to be accompanied by coupon from a license authorizing the killing or capture of same in such state or province."

On the motion of Mr. Usher, it was resolved—"That in pursuing, shooting, or killing of any of the game animals or birds specified in the resolutions preceding, be entirely prohibited at all other times than those specified in the resolutions relating to such animals or birds, respectively."

It was moved by Dr. MacCallum, seconded by Mr. Smith,—"That this committee is of the opinion, and wish to suggest in the most urgent manner, that the tag and coupon system in use in Ontario and Michigan be adopted by all the provinces and states interested."

With regard to insectivorous birds, it was resolved, on the motion of Dr. MacCallum, to urge the association to adopt a permanent protective law against the destruction of all insectivorous and other birds useful to agriculture. SPORTSMEN'S LIMIT. The following was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Usher, seconded by Mr. Wilson: "That this committee recommends that every state and province should adopt laws limiting the number of game birds that may be killed by each hunter per day, and the number, weight and size of game fish which may be caught per day by each angler."

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to Chairman Dunn, and subsequently, the members of the committee were entertained at dinner by Mr. Jones, at the Place Viger Hotel. CONSTITUTION, ETC. Messrs. Usher, Chambers, Smith, Dr. Drummond, C. H. Wilson, Dr. MacCallum, and Tintoomb had in hand also the preparation of a constitution and code of by-laws for the association, which work they completed for presentation at the annual meeting.

Catarrh Now Surely Cured. Catarrh has worked marvels in the case of my little girl." Mrs. Lorenzo Orchard, Toronto, Ont. "There is no remedy equal to Catarrhose for Catarrh. (Wm. J. Runnit, Morrisburg, Ont. "Catarrhose for Catarrh of the head, throat and Bronchitis—has given me perfect

Mark all your baggage." "Mark all your baggage," that is the injunction of every man in any way connected with the baggage department of railroads. It means so little to the passenger and, yet its fulfillment would relieve much care on the part of the little army of men who toil hard from one end of the day to the other, and in hundreds of instances assist very materially in facilitating matters when it comes to making close connections, as is often the case in these days of railroading.

A man who has made the handling of baggage a study, said: "Why is it so many people do not have some initials, name or other identifying mark put on their trunks and valises? Simply because they have the greatest faith in the railway baggage men. That is a compliment, but if they had any idea how greatly this would assist us in preventing baggage going astray they might all possibly be induced to have some mark on their baggage."

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portion of speckled trout was adopted, on the motion of Dr. Drummond, seconded by Mr. Wilson:—"That the exportation of speckled or brook trout be totally prohibited, save with the exception of fish caught by any tourist or summer visitor, the total weight of such fish not to exceed 30 lbs., net, and limited to the lawful catch of two days' angling."

Mr. Wilson brought forward a resolution having reference to bass, and in doing so he said that if the black bass in the St. Lawrence were protected as they ought to be until after the spawning season, there would be no need for the Anglers' Association to apply, as they had done, to the New York State Association for a million bass fry. The latter association had refused to supply a single bass until the close season was made to fully cover the spawning period. His resolution was to the effect that in all the waters dividing the states and provinces, the open season on black bass shall be from July 1 to January 1.

Mr. Smith objected to including striped bass in the above and it was, therefore, confined to black bass. On the motion of Dr. MacCallum, seconded by Mr. Seymour, it was decided to request the president of the association to communicate with the governments of the various bordering states and provinces and invite each to send one or more representatives to the next annual meeting of the association.

Mr. Cormier brought forward the question of the beaver, and it was agreed that it was desirable that all provinces and states extend the close season on this animal until the year 1905.

Mr. Usher moved, and it was adopted: "That this committee approves of the Maine licensed guide system, and recommends the general adoption of it, or some modification of the same, which shall be suited to the wants of each state or province."

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