

ST JOHN STAR, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1905.

Dr. Stockton Talks on Laurier's Autonomy Bill. He Clearly Points Out the Weak Spots in Premier's Argument—Separate Schools Should Not be Forced on the New Provinces.

Dr. Stockton, M. P., was seen by the Sun yesterday and discussed the autonomy bill now before parliament. He said: "It is just one month today since Sir Wilfrid Laurier introduced his two bills to organize the Northwest Territories into the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Sir Wilfrid has the reputation of being an eloquent parliamentary speaker, and he endeavored during the progress of his speech to entice his followers and to make it appear that the legislation proposed was in accordance with the British North America Act. His statements were certainly not very logical and would not commend themselves to lawyers who understood the constitution. Under section 93, sub-section 1, of the B. N. A. Act each province has the right to legislate with respect to education, but under the following sub-section the separate schools then in existence in Ontario and Quebec were to be continued. "The Northwest Territories and Rupert's Land by an imperial order in council of June, 1870, became part and parcel of the dominion of Canada. Provision was made by section 146 of the B. N. A. Act for the provinces of Newfoundland, British Columbia and Prince Edward Island joining the confederation. At the time the union act became law there was no unorganized territory forming part of the dominion of Canada, and consequently no mention is made in the act as to the government of territory other than provinces belonging to confederation. As soon as Canada had acquired the Northwest Territories it then became necessary for an amendment of the B. N. A. Act so as to authorize the parliament of Canada to organize such territory into new provinces. Accordingly, an act in 1871 which authorized the government to do so, was passed. "I may say, also, that another amendment was made to the original act of union by an imperial act in 1886, relating to representation in the house of commons and the increase in the membership of the senate. "In 1870 the dominion parliament passed an act for the government of the Northwest Territories, and by section 14 of that act it is provided that a majority of the ratepayers of any district or portion of the territories, or of any less portion or sub-division thereof, by whatever name the same is known, may establish such schools therein, as they see fit, and may make the necessary assessment and collection of rates therefor, and also that the minority of the ratepayers therein, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic, may establish separate schools therein, and in such case the ratepayers establishing such Protestant or Roman Catholic separate schools shall be liable only to assessments of such rates as they may impose upon themselves in respect thereof. "Under the authority of this act the Northwest council has passed ordinances respecting these schools. This act, however, is not a permanent act, but is merely temporary and can be changed from time to time at the will of the parliament of Canada. It was passed for a temporary purpose, and only during the time the territory was organized as a province or provinces. "Sir Wilfrid Laurier argued that because a system of separate schools existed in the Northwest Territories at the present time, that therefore, it must continue as a legal right, and strange to say, invoked the name and political record of Hon. George Brown to sustain that position. It is almost unnecessary to state that in such contention, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, as a matter of fact, is entirely in error, and as a matter of law directly in conflict with the B. N. A. Act. "Section 93 of the B. N. A. Act gives freedom of action to a province in respect to education, and provided that in provinces where separate schools existed at the time of the union, they should continue to exist. But this unorganized territory is not a province or provinces, and cannot be until the dominion parliament organizes such territory into a province or provinces.

"The minister of justice saw the difficulty in drafting the autonomy bills, for by section 16 of the proposed legislation, it is declared that the provisions of section 93 of the B. N. A. Act shall apply to the new provinces as if at the date upon which this act comes into force, the territory composed therein was already a province and that the expression, "union," in said section 93, should be taken to mean the said date. "If Sir Wilfrid Laurier's contention is correct, then the Territorial Act of 1875 has fastened separate schools upon those territories for all time to come under the terms of the B. N. A. Act. Therefore, it is not necessary to make reference to the subject at all in the proposed bills as under the constitution separate schools would exist. "But Sir Wilfrid and his minister of justice cannot consider seriously their own statement in view of the care which has been taken in section 16 of the proposed bills to declare what the term union means and the suggested amendments which appear in the public press this morning, showing that this is their view. If the proposed amendments as published are correctly stated, then the parliament is to be called upon to repeal sub-section 1 of section 93 of the B. N. A. Act, and to substitute a totally different clause in lieu thereof, which in terms will impose upon the Northwest Territories a system of separate schools, which may now exist, under the temporary act of 1875, and chapters 29 and 30 of the ordinances of the Northwest Territories, passed in 1871. It is also proposed to give a meaning to the term "at the union" entirely different from that term as used in section 93 of the act of union. The term "at the union" under the proposed legislation is made to mean something entirely different from that expression in the B. N. A. Act, or in any other law which relates to the Northwest Territories. In terms it is declared to mean the date at which the autonomy bill comes into force. The care with which these clauses are prepared show conclusively that Sir Wilfrid Laurier has no faith in his own argument that the legislation of 1875 constitutionally gave separate schools to the territories for all time to come. "In comparing section 16 of the original bill with the amendments as appearing in the public press this morning, I cannot see very much difference between them as to the result. Both mean separate schools for the new provinces, and that public money under ordinance 29 of the Northwest Territories must be apportioned without discrimination to both public and separate schools. "Some surprise has been expressed at Sir Wilfrid Laurier's attitude, especially in view of the position he took on the question of remedial legislation for the province of Manitoba. Then he declared that provincial rights were paramount and that all questions of local import should be left to the individual provinces to deal with, education being one of these questions. He declared that to be the correct constitutional doctrine, and that he would trust the people to legislate upon all such questions. Now, however, although there are 500,000 people in the territories, which in the near future may be increased to millions, he is not willing to leave to the legislatures of the new provinces freedom of action on the subject of education. It is unfortunate and to be deplored that any race or religious question should be aroused over this proposed legislation. "As the question now stands, whether the bill as originally introduced, or the amendments as proposed, and which appear in the press this morning, are adopted the result is the same, a system of separate schools for the new provinces for all time without any legislative authority, except that of the imperial parliament to make any change or amendment. "Advertising is often the passenger which opens the lock of business and admits to the field of success—Printers' Ink.

NEW Y. M. A. ROOMS Portland St. Young Men in Their Hour of Success

The Y. M. A. hall of the Portland street Methodist church was formally opened last evening. An interesting programme formed the introductory part of the proceedings, then an inspection of the building and a demonstration of the members' prowess in the gymnasium followed, after which refreshments were served and a social evening was spent. The programme was as follows: Opening prayer and speech, Rev. C. W. Hamilton; selection by St. Luke's male quartette; speech, Rev. S. Howard; reading, Geo. M. Price; speech, J. N. Harvey; inspection of building, J. D. Campbell, 1902; a meeting was held in the church vestry to consider the subject. It was decided to form an association, this club held debates, lectures and entertainments and otherwise provided enjoyable evenings for the members. At the end of the first year its membership stood at 49 and its credit in the bank at \$300. The need for more suitable quarters was strongly felt. A plan was drawn up of a building that would cost about \$5,000 and would fill the wants of the association, making a total of \$1,198.55 for the Y. M. A. of which \$777.55 has been actually paid in. Mr. Harvey also dwelt upon the efforts towards erecting among its members a lively interest in things political and civil, thus contributing to a higher citizenship. Mr. Harvey appealed to the congregation for financial aid, and stated that many former members of the church out of the city were interested, and success here will inspire them to similar efforts. The members of the association together with their friends, can point with pride to the monument of their energy and their efforts. A fine two-story brick structure adorns a former bit of vacant property adjacent to the church, and the result is an enlargement of class room space, a home for the association, a complete and well equipped gymnasium and perhaps the most serviceable of all, a large and handsome assembly hall in which meetings and entertainments can be held. This latter is capable of expansion by means of folding doors which will when needed give considerable additional room. The entire work was supervised by Contractor Platt, Mr. Corbett did the brick work, but the rest was done by local labor. A \$100 fund stands as the result of the initiative taken by the association. These young men contributed in other ways also to the success of the project, guaranteeing \$200 at the outset, they turned their hands to the work of excavating and after business was over they could be seen energetically at the pickaxe and shovel. Such enthusiasm assured the success of the work; others came forward promising aid and within a few days the desired result was brought about. The building is connected with the church and has two separate entrances of its own. The visitor coming in the main entrance is shown into the handsome library. The attractive brick mantel which at once attracts the eye, is the gift of the officers of the association. The floors are of polished hardwood. A cloak room of ample proportions is at one side; within and sunk several feet lower is the gymnasium. Folding doors connect this with the former room, and basket ball or gymnastic contests can be witnessed from the association's room.

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25c., 50c. and \$1.00 The gym itself is 50 feet long, 18 feet wide and 15 feet high. A punching bag, travelling and stationary rings, horizontal and parallel bars, form an equipment which is being gradually increased as funds permit. Beyond this is the kitchen, which will be fitted up for use of the different societies of the church when occasion demands. Proceeding up the back stairs, which also connect with the church, a fine large class room is pointed out. From that room one steps into the assembly hall, well provided with natural and artificial lights. The fine wainscoting and polished floors are much admired, and its acoustic properties are said to be of the best. This room is also comfortably 150 people, and can be enlarged if necessary, by beyond it and fronting on the street is the association and league room, 28x29 feet, the entire space added to the assembly room by the simple act of pushing back the folding doors which divide one part from the other. This room is also well lighted, having no less than six windows. Through these a view of Portland and Main streets can be obtained. The building is lighted throughout by gas, and is heated by hot air, this latter being supplied from the church furnace. From the upper story a broad stairway leads down to the main entrance. Already several meetings have been held in the building, and its use, aside from the meetings of the league and association, will be frequent.

MANY COMPLAINTS About the Inadequate Service on I. C. R.

There is a great deal of complaint in this city and elsewhere over the delay shown by the Intercolonial management in keeping off two trains which were withdrawn during the heavy storms of February. At present the connections for Sydney are simply abominable and it takes a person two days to travel over the four hundred miles between St. John and that town. While all the trains were running passengers might leave the city at seven o'clock in the morning, reach Truro by the maritime at three o'clock in the afternoon, connect there with the express for Halifax, leave Truro at twenty minutes past three, and get to Sydney at fifteen minutes before twelve that same night. They might also leave here at seven o'clock on the morning of the 11th, reach Truro at six-thirty-five next morning, spend three hours there and continue the journey to Sydney by the train leaving at half-past nine, which would take them to their destination at eight o'clock in the evening. This connection was some hours slower than the one first mentioned, but was not so bad after all. But since the trains from Halifax to Sydney and to Truro have been withdrawn there has not been any sort of an attempt at connections. Passengers may now leave St. John on the trains which go at seven in the morning and at a quarter past twelve noon. If they go in the morning they will reach Truro at three o'clock in the afternoon and kick their heels around the station or sleep in a hotel all night. They must spend the night there for there is nothing else to be done. And they can get a train for Sydney at half-past nine the next morning, arriving at Sydney at midnight. Thus they spend forty-one hours in going four hundred miles. They may also leave St. John at noon and make the same connections, thus spending five hours less while actually on the journey, but as a great many people do not stop to inquire about the connection at Truro not a small number are annoyed at finding that they have to spend the night in Truro. The service to Sydney was formerly the best ever put on by the I. C. R., drawn it is the worst for many years. Business men and the travelling public generally, are demanding that the train be again put in commission. Under present conditions a letter mailed in St. John on Tuesday afternoon is not delivered in Halifax until Thursday morning. The St. John business man, therefore, has to wait until Saturday morning before he can receive a reply from Halifax. Between most of the political centres, this is the words of a prominent business man in speaking to the Sun about the matter, is "a most inadequate service."

WILL ADVERTISE NEW BRUNSWICK.

Maine Central Will Issue a Number of Their Magazine Dealing With This Province.

C. E. Beane, editor of the Maine Central, the official organ of the Maine Central railway, arrived in the city yesterday on the Boston express and is staying at the Dufferin. Mr. Beane's visit to St. John is the outcome of considerable correspondence, which he has had with the Tourist Association here relative to the placing of New Brunswick's claims as a tourist centre before the many readers of the Maine Central, which is a most attractive publication. Yesterday afternoon Mr. Beane had a conference with the executive of the association, as a result of which it is altogether probable that a special souvenir number of the magazine will be issued, exclusively devoted to exploiting the attractions of John in particular, and the province in general, as a Mecca for tourists. A final decision will be made by the Tourist Association executive on Friday. If the decision is favorable to Mr. Beane's position, he will return here in a short time and collect data at St. John and at various other points throughout the province for publication in the special number referred to. Mr. Beane is tasted of the joys that are affiliated with work on daily newspapers. For some time he was sporting editor of the Portland Argus, and he has been a member of the South Portland base ball team, which played a couple of games with a St. John team. He has vivid memories of that occasion. St. John lost one game, and as a consequence the strenuous admirers of the home team tossed a few bricks at the visitor. Mr. Beane cherishes no animosity however, and will make no effort to have St. John side-tracked on that account. Mr. Beane is accompanied by Mr. Freeze, provincial representative of the Maine Central, will leave in the morning for Sydney.

FISHING SCHOONER ASHORE.

HALIFAX, March 21.—The American fishing schooner Hazel Onetta, 75 tons, went ashore off Cape Sable on Sunday and is a total loss. The vessel had on board 100,000 lbs. of fish, and is owned in Gloucester by Sylvanus Smith. The crew will be sent to Boxford on Wednesday. Dunes for preservation and the schooner struck a ledge.

A Soldier OF Commerce, By JOHN ROE GORDON. Recounting the thrilling adventures of an American commercial traveller in The Russian Empire. Falling in love with the beautiful daughter of a high Russian official, thereby incurring the enmity of her father who had planned her marriage to a prince, our American gets a taste of the methods of The Russian Police. You can learn how it all turned out by reading the story which will be printed serially in the "ST. JOHN STAR" beginning this month.

MONCTON BAPTIST CHURCH Will be Enlarged—An Extensive Business Trip—Curlers Will Celebrate.

MONCTON, March 21.—Joshua Peters, manager of the R. F. & M. Co., is leaving this week for the Pacific coast on a business trip. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Peters, and they will return via California and the open British Columbia branch of the company's business, which was last year extended to Winnipeg. A. E. Trites, the well known railway contractor of Salisbury, was in town yesterday and proceeded today to Moncton, where he has a large contract on the Bangor and Aroostook railway. Mr. Trites has sub-let most of the work and will give it a general supervision. While here he engaged J. T. Forbes to go to Maine for the summer. Mr. Forbes has been associated with Mr. Trites in railway work for several years as storekeeper, etc. The Moncton Free Baptists, joining with the Second Baptist church, have decided to erect a basement under the present edifice for Sunday school purposes and to add wings that will double the seating capacity of the main church. The work will be proceeded with at once. The Moncton curlers will close the season with a skating party and dance on Thursday evening. The season has been a most successful one from every point of view. The Paul Lea Co. recently organized with a capital of \$20,000, is to take over Paul Lea's woodworking factory on April 1st. The business is to be operated on a large scale with Mr. Lea as manager. Owing to a rush of traffic following the blockade, about twenty new men have been taken on by the I. C. R. as brakemen, some of them to fill the places of others promoted. Some 500 freight cars passed the Moncton yard between Saturday night and last night. William Taylor, late manager of the American Hotel here, has gone to North Sydney to take charge of Mrs. A. L. Slipp's hotel. Andrew MacGowan has resigned his position in the office of the chief engineer of the I. C. R. here, to engage in railway work in Maine in connection with A. E. Trites, contractor.

A SAD ACCIDENT.

Young Man Killed by Accidental Discharge of a Gun.

HALIFAX, March 21.—A very sad affair took place at Middleton about five o'clock this afternoon, when Clyde, the fifteen year old son of L. P. Schaffner, collector of customs, was instantaneously killed by the accidental discharge of a gun, which had been brought from a warehouse, which was being loaded on a sled, when a bag of hay fell over, striking the hammer of the gun sufficiently to cause its discharge, which lodged in his forehead. An inquest was held, at which a verdict of accidental death was brought in. He was a very bright young fellow, and much sympathy is felt for the bereaved parents in this very sad affair.

WELL KNOWN WRITER HERE.

Miss Cornelia Crosby, widely known by her literary work as "The Red Rod," is at the Dufferin. Miss Crosby's business in life is to make known the advantages of travelling by the Maine Central, and to inform persons as to where the biggest game and the liveliest fish are to be found at points accessible to the line. "The Red Rod" is a signature which is well known to readers of publications devoted to outdoor topics. Miss Crosby is accompanied by her friend, Mrs. C. Goodbridge, president of the Sebago Lake Steamship Co. They arrived yesterday by the steamer Calvin Austin.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

C. F. B. Rowe gave a talk last evening in the rooms of the Natural History Society on frogs and other batrachians. A great deal of interesting information on the structure and habits of the little known animals was given, and Mr. Rowe answered a number of questions, which showed that he had observed very closely. F. W. Jones of the firm of Howard Jones & Co. of Battle, England, lumber merchants, is at the Royal. Mr. Jones did not care to express an opinion on the position of the lumber market in England, as he has been away from England for some time.

SENSATIONAL NEWS B it nevertheless true. Men's To Order Tailor made Suits, any style desired, can be got for the Price of the Cloth and Trimmings—the making costs you nothing. In order to introduce our new men's custom tailoring department we will make you a Suit to your measure, Fit and Workmanship Guaranteed or your money refunded. For the Price of the Cloth, \$12.00. We have just received an enormous assortment of Domestic and Imported Cloths, consisting of Fancy Tweeds, Worsteds, Serges, Blue and Black Diagonal—in all about 200 designs of the very latest to choose from. For the One and Only Price of \$12.00. THIS IS THE GREATEST OPPORTUNITY OF THE SEASON. Do not be slow in taking advantage of it, but come and have first choice. SEE WINDOW DISPLAY. Our New Spring Stock of Men's, Youths' and Boys' Ready to Wear Clothing has just arrived and a finer and better assortment we have never before shown, and at prices—as usual—the Lowest in the City. Men's Suits at \$3.95, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.00, \$8.00, \$8.50 and \$9.00 to \$13.00. Boys' 2-Piece Suits from \$2.50 to \$5.00. Boys' 2-Piece Suits from \$1.50 to \$3.50. Men's Pants from 75c. to \$3.50. Boys' Knee Pants, 35c. to 95c. We do as we Advertise, as has been Proven by our last Great Sale. MONTREAL CLOTHING STORE, - 207 Union Street. Store Open Every Evening till 9 p. m.; Saturdays till 11 p. m.