

## The Daily Mail

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at No. 613 Queen Street, Fredericton, by THE MAIL PRINTING COMPANY.

Telephone No. .... 67

Fredericton, N. B., April 3, 1913

## MR. CHURCHILL'S NAVAL SPEECH

A completely new phase has been put upon the naval situation with the pronouncement of Winston Churchill's naval budget speech. The speech came at a most fortunate time for Canada, during the breathing space after the recent fierce parliamentary contest over the Borden naval bill. It came at a most unfortunate moment for Mr. Borden and his crew of emergency shouters. It came at a still more unfortunate time for those who desire Canada's capacity for building her own navy or the advisability of her doing so.

The most important feature of Mr. Churchill's speech is its merciless riddling of the emergency theory and his warning to the empire that there should be no "silly panic." Mr. Churchill outlined the British building program and showed that apart from what the overseas dominions might do, by the year 1920 Great Britain would have 41 super-dreadnoughts to Germany's 24, and also have a superiority of much more than two to one in vessels of the pre-dreadnought class. If war should break out today, he declared, Great Britain would have 700 war vessels of all kinds, mobilized and ready for battle tomorrow, while the service and training of every man afloat would be at the very least twice as large as that of any other navy in the world.

This is very different language to Mr. Borden's philippics about the booming of distant thunder and lightning flashes on the horizon, and his declaration that "We will not wait until any impending storm shall have burst upon us in its fury and with disaster." In Mr. Churchill's own words, it is very evident that Mr. Borden was seized with a "silly panic."

There are many other important points in this most important speech. Although the British naval estimates were nearly \$232,000,000, Mr. Churchill said they would have been substantially higher but for the congestion in the British shipyards owing to the extraordinary demand for naval work, and especially because of the scarcity of skilled labor, while the continual increase in the navy made it more and more difficult to secure sufficient officers and men.

Could stronger arguments be adduced in support of the belief of the Canadian Liberal party, backed by the powerful opinion of The London Times, that it would be for the benefit of the empire that its naval plans should not be concentrated in the Mother Land, but located throughout the dominions also? Could a stronger argument be presented in support of the Liberals' belief that Canada should build up a navy of her own and also build up the necessary skilled labor and plants for such work? That Canada should also train personnel in time man and maintain the navy, which is what Japan did, first with British officers and trainers, until she was able to take the whole thing over?

Mr. Churchill proceeded: "With remorseless persistency scores of millions are being absolutely squandered, while every year all the naval powers are making not only the fleets of their rivals but their own fleets, obsolete, without adding to their relative strength or security. Could any process be more stupid?"

Not very comforting words these for Mr. Borden, whose present ambition is to drag on parliament and the country into joining in this very "stupid process."

Further, Mr. Churchill points out that while Great Britain is able to send strong squadrons to aid any threatened overseas dominion, this capacity will be reduced as the danger zones in European waters increase.

"It behooves the dominions therefore, to make exertions for their own and the common safety, whether by provision of local navies or by what is more effectual, making additions to the imperial navy to increase the world-wide mobility of its squadron."

Could a stronger argument be de-

vided in support of Sir Wilfrid's statement that the policy of the overseas dominions should be that as each ship is withdrawn by Britain to home waters, that ship should be replaced by one of the dominion's own?

In view of the remarkable statement made by the British first lord of the admiralty during this period of consideration in the Canadian parliament it seems hardly too much to ask that Mr. Borden should re-consider his whole position. In his last manifesto he showed a sober second thought when he said that if the people at the next election desired it, the three dreadnoughts could be demanded back from Britain to be used in connection with a Canadian fleet. Why not first find out what the people do demand and then go ahead, or else adopt the Laurier plan which is already known and approved by the people and the admiralty? To continue saying that there is any emergency is not merely silly, it is criminal.

It should not be forgotten that it was the strong position taken by the Canadian Liberals, after the production of Mr. Churchill's memorandum in which he argued Canada's incapacity to build or man a navy which undoubtedly compelled him to make so clear a statement of the actual position.

According to The St. John Standard Hon. Dr. Pugsley was completely crushed and humiliated in parliament on Tuesday by a Tory backbencher named Smith. It seems that in the course of a debate over the dismissal of a Liberal postmaster it came out that Smith, who had recommended the dismissal, had once been found guilty of corrupt practices at an election and had been disqualified from sitting in parliament for seven years. When reminded of this little incident by Dr. Pugsley, he called out "You're another," or words to that effect. A great triumph for Smith, to be sure.

Hon. L. P. Pelletier, the ghostmaster general in the Borden cabinet, believes in storing up something for the future. He lately placed an order for 350,000 mail bag locks which will be almost sufficient to last the government until the beginning of the next century. Even though it was shown that a nephew of Pelletier's was interested in the transaction we find Premier Borden declaring that it was perfectly proper.

The following from the Toronto Saturday Night may not have been intended for Mr. O. S. Crockett, M.P., but it seems to fit his case very well:—"The House of Commons is, or should be, first, and foremost a place of business, but instead it is becoming a place of self-aggrandizement—a chamber where the political opportunists with the aid of the newspapers of his particular party glorifies himself at the public's expense."

Notwithstanding the great railway development going on along the St. John Valley, the exodus to the west has not abated. There may be immigrants pouring into the province, as the press supporting the local government tells us, but they cannot take the place of our own sturdy people.

Mr. O. S. Crockett, M.P., who used to be some noise as a scandal-hunter should get busy and endeavor to find out what Ghostmaster General Pelletier is going to do with the 350,000 mail bag locks recently ordered from an Ontario firm.

## OPERATORS NOW

(Continued on page eight)

The cut on the Tobique is estimated at 31,000,000 feet. It is divided as follows among the individual operators: Stetson & Cutler, 12,000,000; Donald Fraser & Sons, 15,000,000; Charles Miller, 4,000,000.

## TO MEET AGAIN.

The directors of the St. John River Log Driving Company met yesterday afternoon and discussed the matter of taking over the driving contract from Aiken Bros. The meeting ended without action being taken and another meeting is to be held in some days. It is probable that the company will conduct its own driving operations however. No change is to be made in the rafting system.

## THE VALLEY FARM

The Nashwaakisis Dramatic Society presented the pretty little drama entitled "The Valley Farm," last evening in the Nashwaakisis Hall to a large and delighted audience. All those taking part did themselves great credit. The specialties between the acts were excellent. Following is the cast of characters, all of whom are residents of Nashwaakisis:

## CHARACTERS.

Harold Rutledge, a young New Yorker, Herbert Bailey.  
Perry Deane, a son of the soil, Harold Staples.  
David Hildreth, a New York lawyer, Fred Drilen.  
Silas Holcomb, owner of Valley Farm, Byron Evans.  
Azariah Keep, a clock tinker, Sandy Smith.  
Jennings, servant at the Rutledge mansion, Bedford Staples.  
Hetty Holcomb, a country flower transplanted to city soil, Grace Smith.  
Isabel Carney, niece to David Hildreth, Addie Close.  
Mrs. Rutledge, Harold's mother, Winnifred Staples.  
Alvira Holcomb, sister of Silas, Hepsy Willis.  
"Lizy Ann" Tucker, who borrows but "never gossips," Dorothy Staples.  
Verena, hired girl at the farm, Verna Staples.

## SYNOPSIS.

Act I—Valley Farm, an afternoon in August: the engagement.

Act II—The Rutledge mansion, New York City, the following December: the serpent has crept into Eden.

Act III—Same as before, three weeks later, parted.

Act IV—At the farm again, an evening in the next March; the triumph of love.

The entertainment will be repeated tonight and a large crowd should attend.

## GIBSON NEWS

Child's Concert in the Baptist Church  
---Big Business on the I. C. R.

Gibson, April 4—There was an excellent children's concert in the United Baptist church last night on which occasion a large audience was present, which enjoyed greatly the well arranged program presented.

Since the draw span in the highway bridge was washed out, business on the I.C.R. has increased ten fold. The scene around the station the past few days has been a busy one, while the traffic on all the trains going both ways has been very heavy. The milkmen on the Gibson side of the river all have to travel by train with their supply of milk for the city while the large number of young people living at St. Mary's, Gibson, Douglas and Nashwaakisis, who are employed in the city are compelled to use the railway bridge which makes the walk to and from work very long.

FORTY YEARS IN USE, 20 YEARS THE STANDARD, PRESCRIBED AND RECOMMENDED BY PHYSICIANS. FOR WOMAN'S AILMENTS, DR. MARTEL'S FEMALE PILLS, AT YOUR DRUGGIST.

## Cure That March Cold?

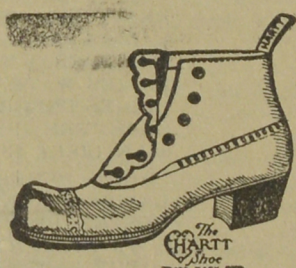
The dangers of a MARCH COLD are just as serious as any other. Don't treat the attending aches and pains of MARCH COLDS lightly. They are serious enough to deserve your immediate attention.

## HUNT'S Laxative Cold Tablets

are tablets upon which you can rely at all times.

25c a bottle.

HUNT & MACDONALD DRUGGISTS PHONE 65



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TRY A PAIR FOR EASTER  
Spring Styles Now in Stock.

MADE IN OUR OWN TOWN  
THE FINEST IN THE LAND

H. S. CAMPBELL SHOEMAN

## Prepare for Spring Rains

## JOHN J. WEDDALL &amp; SON

Have just opened an Immense Stock of Ladies' and Children's Raincoats Rubber outside and Rubber inside all Lengths and Sizes bring your Children and get them fitted while the Sizes are complete.

## John J. Weddall &amp; Son

STANDARD PATTERNS. REYNIER GLOVES.

## Putz Cream

A Metal Polish for polishing Nickle, Brass and Copper, Etc.

Putz Cream is Sold in the following popular Sizes

1-6 Pint	10 cents.
1-2 "	25 "
1 "	50 "
1 Quart	75 "
1-2 Gal Cans	\$1.25.

PUTZ SILVA POLISH for Gold and Silver.  
Only 25 cents per Bottle

We also carry a Nice Line of Chamois Polishing Cloths.

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Domestic Sanitary and Heating Engineers.

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1 LB PACKAGES 50 CENTS to \$1.25.  
1-2 LB PACKAGES 30 to 50 CENTS.

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Druggist Opp. City Hall. The Rexall Store

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(Pathe Comedy) (Vitagraph)

"Sins of the Fathers"  
THRILLING BRONCO FEATURE  
IN TWO PARTS

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is offering Sheet Music, Victor Gramophones and all musical instruments at the very lowest prices. High Grade Pianos and Organs always in stock. Post Cards for sale cheap.

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