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THURSDAY, DECEMBER, 1, 1904.

A REGRETTABLE INCIDENT.

It is a pity that an otherwise pleasant social evening should have been marred by the introduction of party politics at the annual dinner of the Fredericton Society of St. Andrew, and the persons responsible for this bit of exceedingly bad taste, will have to bear the responsibility if the Society's interests suffer as a result.

Some weeks ago at the Society's annual meeting an effort was made to drag in the Dundonald affair by a person with more Tory zeal than tact and discretion, but the resolution proposing sympathy with Lord Dundonald raised such a storm of protest that its movers were compelled to withdraw it.

Another party, however, with similar sympathies, seems to have renewed the discussion at last night's dinner, and succeeded in arousing considerable indignation among the Liberal members and guests of the Society, and to have somewhat marred the harmony of the gathering.

A gentleman in whom the Herald has every confidence, contributes in another column an account of what occurred, and naturally expresses the indignation he and others of Liberal tendencies felt at the occurrence.

The man, whether he be a clergyman or otherwise, who deliberately introduces a controversial question at a social gathering where all shades of politics are represented, displays absolute lack of judgment, and exceedingly bad taste. The initiative in offending however, seems to have been taken by a leading officer of the society who is suffering from undue inflation at an unexpected and undeserved political triumph, and both the parties concerned are equally guilty of perpetrating a blunder, which we trust was due to the conditions under which they spoke rather than to any preconceived and premeditated plan for harrowing the feelings of the Liberals present at the dinner. This is a charitable view of the incident, which all responsible members of the society and its friends outside would prefer to accept, were the suspicion not so strong that an effort is being made to conduct the society as an adjunct to the Conservative party rather than to permit it to continue on its useful non-partisan mission of relieving the poor, assisting the cause of education, and generally pursuing a course for the benefit of the community, and for perpetuating the honor and glory of Scottish history, its noble men and its patron saint.

AN ONTARIO OUTRAGE.

Conservatives who profess serious nervous shock at recent political revelations in Ontario, would naturally be expected to utter a solemn and vigorous protest against something that has happened in Wentworth, Ont., but we have yet to see any evidence that the party feels any degree of penitence in that respect.

In the recent federal election in Wentworth, the Liberal candidate received a majority of the votes cast, but one of the deputy returning officers made the mistake, either willfully or otherwise, of making the number of the ballots opposite each voters name in the poll book so that the way each cast his ballot could be discovered on reference thereto.

The returning officer declared the Liberal candidate elected, but in subsequent proceedings before a judge, the entire poll was thrown out of the count, and the Conservative candidate having a majority without the disputed poll, was declared elected.

This was all right so far, but the wonder is that belonging to such a pure party as the Conservatives claim to be, Mr. Smith, the minority candidate, backed up by his friends, has decided to sit in parlia-

ment for a seat which he failed to fairly win. His decision is certainly an outrage which should be condemned by every honest man, and it is some satisfaction to know that immediate steps will be taken to oust him from a position on which he has no legal or moral claim.

Some years ago, Mr., now Senator King, who polled a majority of the votes cast in Queen's County in this province, was robbed of his seat by a Tory returning officer, and the Wentworth case is quite as flagrant and outrageous.

If Mr. Smith has the temerity to take his seat in parliament, he should be boycotted by every honorable member of that body, but in the meantime there is no protest coming from Tory sources against his resolve to profit by the error of the deputy returning officer.

JOURNALISTIC M. P.'S.

A very fair proportion of the members of the new Canadian House of Commons are active journalists, while others were former members of that profession.

In the cabinet itself are such prominent newspaper men as Hon. W. S. Fielding, who was connected with the Halifax Chronicle as reporter and editor from his boyhood up to his entrance into political life in 1882, and Senator Templeman, proprietor of the Victoria, B. C. Daily Times.

In the rank and file of the House are included Mr. Frank Oliver, editor of the Edmonton Bulletin, Mr. Parmelee, editor of a paper in Shefford, Quebec, Mr. Duncan Ross, editor of the Boundary Creek Times, B. C., Mr. Walter Scott, editor of a Regina paper, Mr. Alexander Johnson, proprietor of the Sydney, N. S. Record, and several others.

SAILED TODAY.

Lord Grey, our new governor general, and Lady Grey and members of their family, sailed today from Liverpool on the Allan Liner Parisian for Canada, and are expected to reach Halifax on or about Dec. 9. His Excellency will be sworn in at Halifax and will spend a couple of days there in social intercourse with the people before proceeding to Ottawa to assume the duties of his new office.

The people of Canada who have received most favorable impressions of the new governor general and his lady, wish them a safe trip across the Atlantic, and will extend to the distinguished couple a hearty welcome to Canada.

Yesterday was nomination day in the Prince Edward Island general local election, and only two seats went by acclamation, Mr. Richards, Liberal, having that good luck in the second district of Prince County, and Mr. Macdonald, Conservative, in the fifth district of Kings. In all other ridings there are full tickets of both parties.

BITS OF NEWS.

The engagement of Miss Maude Borden, second eldest daughter of Sir Frederick Borden, to Lionel Macoun, of Ottawa, is announced.

Admiral Davis has been appointed as United States commissioner to serve on the North Sea outrage investigation. He is a brother-in-law of Senator Lodge of Massachusetts.

Rev. Mr. Strathie, former pastor of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, of Truro, has accepted the call to the Presbyterian Church at Summerside and will be inducted on December 8th.

Mr. Sherman Hoyt, of the N. B. Telephone Co., has purchased the building on Queen street, Woodstock, occupied by J. W. Astle as a general insurance office, but will not take possession till next May.

Mr. James McKenna, of the C. P. R. passenger department, St. John,



has gone to Mexico as a delegate to the American Association of traveling agents, and will be the only Maritime Province representative at the gathering.

Dr. and Mrs. Charles M. Hay, of Philadelphia, who have been visiting the Hon. L. P. and Mrs. Farris at White's Cove, Queens Co., returned to Philadelphia last week, accompanied by Mrs. Farris. Dr. Hay is slightly improved in health.

Charles Kinney, Bristol, Carleton County, was arrested by Sheriff Foster on Sunday and taken to Andover jail where he awaits trial on a charge of stealing a gold watch from a man by the name of Furnham, a jeweller at Perth. Kinney recently served a term in the penitentiary for stealing a horse and carriage from C. D. Johnston of Woodstock.

Owen Cameron, I. C. R. claims agent at Moncton, has received word of the death of his brother, Daniel Cameron, who was accidentally killed Wednesday near Fort William, Ont., in a railway collision. Deceased was a carpenter by trade, and went west from Halifax about fourteen years ago. He leaves three brothers and four sisters in Halifax.

At Hamilton Mountain, Queens Co., on Saturday last, John Phillips, a well known resident, was found dead about a quarter of a mile from his home near the shore of Long Lake. It is supposed in trying to turn over his boat, which was partially filled with ice, the boat slipped and came down on his head, crushing his skull. Mr. Phillips was about 50 years of age and unmarried.

It is now generally admitted, says the Newcastle Advocate, that the lumber cut on the Miramichi this season will be between 40,000,000 and 50,000,000. Last season's cut amounted to nearly 90,000,000. It is stated that if it had not been that supplies for this year were sent into the woods last spring before the snow went off, and before the decline in the market, the present season's cut would be even smaller than it is likely to be.

The expected conference at Moncton Wednesday between the Minister of Railways and the Dominion and Canadian Express Companies in reference to the application of the Dominion Company for equal rights with the Canadian Company on the Intercolonial did not take place as the Dominion Express Company officials did not show up. J. Bryce, general manager, H. C. Creighton and Le. Coleman, of the Canadian Company, were on hand and had a conference with Mr. Emmerson respecting the company's contract with the I. C. R.

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