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LOSING GROUND.

Returned Montrealer Says Chamberlain's Policy

IS NOT MEETING FAVOR WITH BRITISH PUBLIC.

Liberals Will Win the Next Election.

Mr. J. H. Dunn, the well known Montreal stock broker, returned a few days ago from a trip to England in connection with the business of his firm's London office.

While in England Mr. Dunn met a number of leading English politicians and studied the conditions of the country closely. As a result of his experiences he concluded that the Chamberlain boom is on the down grade, while the Liberals are well in line for office at the next election.

Of course, as a Liberal, Mr. Dunn admitted a chat with the Herald that he might have viewed things through that glass. But in general he found the study of political conditions especially because it confirmed his observations on this continent that wherever one might be the bottom of the difference between the two parties was that the Conservatives were more inclined to government of the people, while the Liberal attitude was inevitably toward government by the people.

THE FISCAL QUESTION.

"I met a good many of the political leaders while in England," said Mr. Dunn, "and heard a good deal of discussion on the fiscal subject which really embraces the wider field impression the Chamberlain propaganda gave me was that his idea was to bring the Colonies and the mother country closer together—in Chamberlain way; to make the Colonies of Imperial relations. The general chip in to the support of Army and Navy—according to Chamberlain ideas not in our own way."

"I had always been a warm advocate of the cultivation of the Canadian national than the Imperial idea, but after meeting many leading English Liberals on this trip I rather lost that idea. The English Liberals' ideas are very much like our own. Where Chamberlain would force us into acceptance of his ideas the Liberals want the colonies to work out their own destinies in their own way. That is the vital difference between the two parties. Where one would drive one from the empire, the other would knit me and all loyal colonies yet closer."

Mr. Dunn attended several Liberal meetings in company with Lord Hadow (Earl of Aberdeen's eldest son), and met Rt. Hon. John Morley, Mr. Rufus Isaacs and many other leading Liberals who took the platform.

LIBERALS AND BALFOUR.

The Liberals were keen to criticize Premier Balfour, not spending much time on Mr. Chamberlain. They pointed out that the Conservatives were crying out that England's industrial supremacy was waning and proposed closer colonial relations, retaliation against unfriendly tariffs, and some protection to manufacturers, yet despite two years' preaching the immediate necessity of adopting this doctrine they feared to go to the country on it.

Mr. Morley, however, did not admit that England was in such desperate straits, but thought she was still doing her share in the world's business. He blamed the South African war for the dull times, and showed from history that periods of depression had always followed every great British war. He however, took the ground that there was no need for radical measures, that the Islanders' as he called them, as in the past would work out their own salvation.

"In fact," said Mr. Dunn, "Chamberlain's ideas do not seem to have permanently influenced the people, especially of the Metropolis, when you find an ardent Chamberlainite you discover every time that he is a manufacturer. Amongst the large financial houses of London the Chamberlain boom seemed to have entirely died away, probably because business was on the upward trend and general confidence was reviving."

"In fact, returning from a political meeting I attended, a story or two were related to the effect that in a speech in the Welsh tin plate district Mr. Chamberlain had bewailed the condition of the Welsh tin-plate industry as a result of the American high tariff. Yet on the very day that his speech was made the official figures were published showing that the Welsh tin-plate industry had enjoyed the greatest year in its history. The American tariff had hit the industry, but it had im-

proved its products, found new markets and was prospering more than ever.

LIBERALS WILL WIN.

There was a strong general feeling in England that the next election would see the Liberals returned to power, the only anxiety was as to whether they would come back strong enough to be independent of the Irish party, and so get rid of that internal trouble from the latter holding the balance of power. The greatest weakness in the Liberal party seemed to be the lack of any paramount leader who could pull all the other leaders into line.

"As far as Canada is concerned," said Mr. Dunn, "I did not hear much discussion as to our political attitude. But in talking with prominent Liberals they all warmly approved of the Laurier Government idea of contributing to imperial defence by policing our own waters and perfecting our own defences. The Conservatives did not. It was just the old story. The Liberals would bind the empire closer by giving it more freedom. The Conservatives would prefer to cut out our paths for us and force us along them."

CANADA'S STOCK IS GOOD.

"From a business standpoint there is no doubt that Canadian securities occupy a position today they never did before. My own English clients used to say that if the Canadian securities did not secure a ready market abroad there was too small a home population to assimilate them. That idea seems to have gone for good. Every investor is willing to buy such securities as C. P. R. and C. N. R. and other roads. As to the G. T. P. securities of course the project is mainly known amongst the old Grand Trunk element. But the feeling is strong in the old land that if the Dominion and the G. T. P. have sufficient confidence in the new districts to embark on so vast a scheme there must be a great future for it."

"In fact, public utility and traction financed by Canadians are regarded with strong favor, such as the Sao Paulo and Mexican Light and Power, etc.—the result of a growing knowledge of Canada and Canadian financiers."

HE WAS WARNED.

Grand Duke Sergius Knew That His Death was Coming.

Chicago, Feb. 27.—David Macbeth, the correspondent of The Tribune, at St. Petersburg, in a letter dated Jan. 30, states that the organization of combat had fixed, weeks in advance, the exact day of Sergius's death. The letter reads: "To an accidental the Russian idea of political murder is extraordinary. Assassination is regarded almost solely as a political—not a criminal—act. The officials themselves take this point of view. The murder of a minister or a czar means that he has met with political defeat—that his political enemies have triumphed over him. That he had also lost his life is considered to be of inferior importance to the fact that he has lost his influence."

"No political assassin ever feels the slightest moral compunction before or after his attempt. He never acknowledges that what he did was either a sin or a crime. He believes a man is a wicked ruler. He cannot strip this ruler of his political influence except by killing him. That is the only political path that in the past has been open to Radicals."

"So they have tried it. Not one of them would dream of killing a man for his purse."

"At the present moment, although no more open demonstrations against the troops seem likely, an era of bomb-throwing is feared—the organization of combat." The executive committee of the revolutionary Socialists has publicly announced, through the Paris press, that it has condemned the Czar to death. Grand Duke Sergius, the Czar's uncle, a few days ago received a letter: "You have 22 days to live." The next day came a letter: "You have 21 days to live." Then: "You have 20 days to live."

According to present calculations from today, Jan. 30, Sergius has 18 days to live.

Several notes have reached M. de Witte, former minister of finance, "Your bomb is made. We shall put you in a barrel of kerosene and set it on fire."

IF YOU HAVE A BAD COLD.

If you are sneezing and suffering from a "stuffed-up" head and running eyes the best plan is to get fragrant, healing Catarrhazone, the quickest and surest cure for cold in the head, coughs and catarrh ever discovered. This great healing agent is carried by the air you breathe all through the passages of the nose, throat and lungs. It soothes the irritated membranes, kills catarrhal germs, instantly stops the cough and sneezing. It is the antiseptic vapor of Catarrhazone that does the curing. A trial proves that a cold can be killed in a few minutes by Catarrhazone. Money back if it fails. Complete outfit \$1; small size 25c.

IT WORKS W.

Separate School System in Quebec.

HAS PROVED OF GREAT ADVANTAGE TO PROTESTANT MINORITY.

Testimony from Principal Shaw.

Montreal, Feb. 25.—Notwithstanding the fact that a great deal has been said respecting the objectionable character of Separate Schools ever since the question of granting autonomy to the North West Territories first came within the region of practical politics, there seems to be no disposition on the part of the Protestants in this Province, who form the minority, to look askance at them. Most of the Protestants here, of course, would prefer a national school system, free from sectarian or racial bias, as being the best means of building up a united Canadian people, but under the circumstances they feel constrained to believe that the Separate School system as it is found in this Province has worked with a minimum of harm to those interested.

HOW SYSTEM WORKS IN QUEBEC.

All the educational institutions of the Province, both advanced and elementary, are under the supervision and control of a body known as the Council of Public Instruction. Its membership consists of twelve Roman Catholic bishops, twelve Roman Catholic laymen and twelve Protestants. The Roman Catholics and the Protestants form committees by themselves, and the Council only convenes when there is something of common interest to be discussed. The Protestant Committee has power to add six members to its number and there is also a representative of the teachers, making, in all, a committee of nineteen.

THE DIVISION OF TAXATION.

The Protestants on the average are far more wealthy than are the Roman Catholics throughout the Provinces, and most of the difficulties that have arisen in the past, as a consequence, have found their origin in some disagreement over the division of the finances. Particularly has this been the case in Montreal. The 70,000 Protestants in the city are immensely more wealthy per capita than are the Roman Catholic fellow citizens, the average wealth of these Protestants being greater than anywhere else in Canada. As a consequence while the Roman Catholic School Commissioners have much ado to secure the funds necessary to carry on their work, the Protestant Board of School Commissioners is rarely in need of moneys. At the present time they contemplate the expenditure of close upon \$150,000 in extensions to the various school buildings, which does not indicate extreme poverty. The Roman Catholic Commissioners, on the contrary, as has been hinted, would find it almost impossible, under existing conditions, to expand their work, and their efforts to keep abreast of the increasing demands of their constituency often meets with embarrassing results.

The Roman Catholic School Board only owns eight school buildings. They, however, subsidize twenty-eight schools owned by the Nuns and the Christian Brothers. There are in addition twelve private schools subsidized, making forty-eight schools in all under the supervision of the Board. The Protestant Board does not subsidize any schools; all its buildings are owned and administered by the members constituting that body.

PRINCIPAL SHAW'S OPINION.

Rev. Dr. W. I. Shaw, D.D., the principal of the Wesleyan Theological College, is the existing president of the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction. With a desire to secure his opinion on the operation of Separate Schools in this province, The News' correspondent called on him. The Doctor was found in consultation with the representative of a New York publishing house who is desirous of introducing into the schools of the city a book setting forth a new system of instruction in Grammar. Dr. Shaw, however, was quick to point out that the book would have to be materially remodelled before it could be made of use to the schools here. The recent edition was altogether too American. The author, for such he proved to be, had never thought of the matter in that light, and seemed greatly astonished when the Doctor informed him that the people of Can-

ada were even more British than the people at home.

"How do you regard the dual system of schools in the Province of Quebec?" asked the correspondent, when the discomfited author had withdrawn.

"I regard it, under the circumstances, with great satisfaction," replied Dr. Shaw, "and as most advantageous to the Protestant minority. We collect our own taxes and receive our share of the legislative grants, and administer these funds in a way to suit ourselves."

"THE NEUTRAL PANEL" AND ITS EFFECTS.

"Do you consider the funds administered fairly?"

"For the most part they certainly are. There are occasional and accidental changes in the boundaries of school municipalities which are to our detriment, but these are exceptional. The chief matter on which a Protestant critic of our system would take exception is with relation to the neutral panel in which the taxes of all commercial corporations and of individuals desiring to be identified with neither Roman Catholics or Protestants are placed. These taxes are divided in each municipality according to population. Complaint is sometimes made by Protestants that while three-fourths of the capital and enterprise of these corporations are Protestant, only a small fraction of the neutral taxes goes to the Protestant schools. This division of taxes on the neutral panel is working considerable disadvantage to the Montreal Protestant schools, but, taking the whole province, I have always held that the rights of mechanics should be considered as well as those of proprietors. If, for example, as often happens in a small French town, there is a factory owned entirely by a few Protestants, but engaging 400 Roman Catholic artisans it is only fair that the largest part of the taxes on that factory should go to the Roman Catholic rather than to the Protestant schools. This is a serious question, which has undoubtedly caused some bitterness of feeling, but I can see no prospect of any change in it."

"A MOST FORTUNATE ARRANGEMENT."

"Do you regard the dual system as better than the common school system?"

"Not in the abstract. But for the interest of the Protestant it is for us a most fortunate arrangement. For example, in most communities, Protestantism represents the largest measure of wealth and enterprise, and therefore contributes to its schools a larger amount than they could receive if there was one common fund. In Montreal, where Protestantism is so wealthy—to mention only one instance—our taxes for the education of 10,000 scholars are much more than the Roman Catholic Commissioners received from their taxpayers to educate 23,000."

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"My appetite was poor and my system was out of order."

"I felt weak and dispirited, was tired out the whole day long."

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"It gave me a strong nervous system, a good appetite, and abundance of health."

Ferrozone contains concentrated nourishment you can't get in any other way. No other medicine benefits so quickly. 50c per box or six boxes for \$2.50, at all dealers in Medicine, or Polson & Co., Hartford, Conn., U. S. A., and Kingston, Ont.

The first time a girl wears a low-neck dress she feels like a man who goes swimming and has his clothes stolen.

When washing greasy dishes or pots and pans, Lever's Dry Soap (a powder) will remove the grease with the greatest ease.

THE SUNNY SOUTH.

Feels the Effect of the Cold Winter.

This Year the Cold Belt in the United States Has Penetrated South.

All records of the United States Weather Bureau for extended cold and continuous snowfall over wide areas have been broken by the meteorological performances of the present winter. There have been lower temperatures and heavier snow storms than those recorded this year but in no single season in the history of the Weather Bureau has the country generally been visited with such extremes of both cold and snow.

A big map which Professor Willis L. Moore, chief of the Weather Bureau, maintains in his office shows how completely grim winter has the nation in its grasp. The great Mississippi, the backbone of the continent, is frozen clear to the marrow from the lower part of Illinois clear to its source near the Canadian boundary. All the tributaries branching out on either side are merely long stretches of ice. The river systems of the extreme north and east are in the same condition. More than three-fourths of the territory of the United States is covered under a mantle of snow, which in some places is more than three feet deep. The entire tier of northern and central states, stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, are buried under the virgin white, save for a small fringe along the west coast, where the warm winds have protected strips of California, Oregon and Washington.

The most remarkable feature of the snow is the extent of its encroachments upon the sunny south and the persistency with which it refuses to melt and disappear. The present southern limit of snow take in all those states that are semi-tropical, excepting Florida, which up to the present time has escaped. The line touches all other Southern states, however. It is nothing unusual for flurries of snow to visit Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and Southern Texas. But it is a unique experience for the citizens of those sections to have sleighing for weeks at a time.

The last severe cold wave and snow storm in the southern states prior to this year was in February, 1895, when the orange industry was ruined and havoc wrought to the entire tropical fruit growing district. At Jacksonville the thermometer dropped to 14 degrees, and all along the gulf new low records were made. It was below freezing at every weather bureau station in Florida save at Key West. Snow did much damage and was deep enough for sleighing at Pensacola. For a week after that cold wave snow lay several inches deep at the Mississippi jetties and nearly two feet deep in Southwest Louisiana.

The whims of storms are shown by the fact that in the little state of Connecticut the snow is eighteen inches deep in some places and only two inches deep in others. The same extremes are noted on the east and west side of Lake Michigan. At Green Haven, on the east side, the snow is measured by feet and by inches at Milwaukee on the opposite shore. The prevailing contrary winds are responsible for the wide variations. The depths reported from the Middle Central States vary but little. Snow is but twenty inches deep, however at Lincoln, Nebraska, the home of William Jennings Bryan. In other places the quantity of snow reported is greater than in the territory immediately adjoining.

Professor Moore and his associates at the Weather Bureau are apprehensive of a big flood in the early spring. Conditions are recognized to be unfavorable and a sudden thaw following a heavy rain would doubtless lead to serious damages. What the government officials are praying for is ordinary weather for the next two months. With average conditions for that period of time the snow and ice would gradually melt and disappear without doing any material harm. No concern is felt over the presence of a deep covering of snow throughout the greater part of the country. That is looked upon as a blessing rather than a menace, for it will help the great corn and wheat belt. Two feet of snow is equivalent to about two inches of rain. But the danger lies in the masses of ice that clog nearly every river north of the Ohio. A quick thaw will lead to the breaking up of these enormous cakes and the forming of gorges. Then will come the floods with untold possibilities for harm.

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But the old reliable Putnam's Corn Extractor is entirely vegetable in composition and does not eat and burn the flesh. It gradually lifts the corn, causes no pain, and cures permanently. Price 25c. at all druggists. Use only "Putnam's."