THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., DEC. 7, 1905.

The St. John Evening Times is puolished at 27 and 29 Canterbury Street, every evening, (Sunday excepted,) by the St. John Times Printing & Publishing Co., Ltd. A company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act.

A. M. BELDING, Editor.

THE VERDICT

The coroner's inquest in the case of the late Edith F. Clarke has resulted in a verdict implicating two persons in the proceedings which resulted in the death of the unfortunate girl. The case will now be dealt with by the crown authorities, and certain newspapers will probably be less eager to publish anonymous interviews with lawyers who may be interested in an attempt to influence public opinion. The case is a very serious one, and the fullest investigation is necessary. There will be no disposition on the part of the public to prejudge the case, but justice and the public welfare demand that neither favor nor indifference mark the further proceedings in connection with this lamentable affair.

BRITISH POLITICS

There is much speculation concerning the probable personnel of the new British cabinet. The most generally accepted list as far as made up by the political prophets is as follows:—

Premier—Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman.

Chancellor of Exechequer—H. H. Asquith.

Indian office—John Morley.

Foreign office—Lord Elgin.

Secretary for Colonies—Sir Edward Grey.

Lord Lieutenant of Ireland—Earl of Aberdeen.

Secretary for Ireland—Herbert John Gladstone, son of "the great Commoner."

Chairman Board of Agriculture—John Burns, the Labor leader.

Rt. Hon. James Bryce is also mentioned as a probable member of the cabinet, and it is held by many that Lord Rosebery will not be wholly ignored, despite his opposition to Home Rule.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman has a difficult task before him. If he does not make Home Rule a leading plank in his platform the Irish Nationalists, whose declarations were published in the Times yesterday, will have none of him. If he comes out strongly for Home Rule, not only Lord Rosebery and many Liberals will oppose him, but there can be no hope of support from free trade Unionists like the Duke of Devonshire. If he does not satisfy the Labor party, they will prove a thorn in his side. There are various combinations possible, both for and against him, and his task is therefore a very delicate one. Sir Henry is a clever man, but not a forceful one, in the sense that Mr. Chamberlain is, and he must therefore get some good fighting timber in his cabinet. The most aggressive of those named as probable colleagues of the premier is Mr. Asquith, who has carried on a very vigorous campaign in opposition to Mr. Chamberlain's fiscal scheme

It is evident that the Home Rule question is to come to the front more prominently than for years past. The Irish Nationalists have more to hope from a Liberal than from a Conservative government, and will not fail to press their advantage to the utmost. The Conservatives will very cheerfully encourage them in this attitude, for the benefit their own cause may derive from it among English opponents of Home Rule.

Nobody expects to see an era of brilliant statesmanship under Sir Henry's guidance, but rather a series of struggles between parties, in both of which there are divisions concerning important matters of policy. There is a general acceptance of the fact that Sir Henry will carry the country in the general elections, after which his real troubles will begin. He will be greatly helped in the elections by the popular opposition to the educational policy of Mr. Balfour.

Canadians may fairly expect the removal of the cattle embargo by a Liberal government, as the new premier has declared himself in favor of that policy.

SPRUCE AND BIRCH

The Bangor Commercial has been asked why spruce lumber is so high, and after remarking that the demand is partially caused by the extensive building operations in the residential sections of the large cities, for which spruce, rather than steel is used, but mainly because of its use as paper stock, continues as follows:—

"Our eastern cities are rapidly extending their residential portions in all directions. The better class of city business workers are living in their own houses in the far suburbs, which is made possible by the extension of the trolley lines of transit extending into the country towns from the cities, over long distances. The frames of these buildings are constructed of spruce. A business man who operates large lumber mills, in Aroostook County tells us that for the past dozen years the output of his mills has gone to towns within a radius of twenty-five miles from Boston; and others could tell the same story.

"Then the demand upon the spruce forest, the trees of Abies excelsa, for paper stock is something enormous. When it is recalled that the modern newspaper is printed on paper made wholly of wood pulp, the wood of spruce trees, it can be readily seen how great the consumption of spruce must be.

"The spruce tree is a product of northern climes. No unimproved land is more valuable today than that which has a good stand of spruce upon it. Great corporations are hunting for it and buying it wherever it is for sale. They are beginning to realize that spruce is a crop that must be economized, or, with the demand upon it and with the risk attending it in the destructive forest fires, it will become hard to obtain. These are some of the reasons why spruce lumber is so very high."

Regarding exports of spool wood, the Commercial states that about 7,000,000 feet has been shipped from Bangor this year to the British market, but the spool wood manufacturers think there will be a big dropping off in shipments next year. The white birch forests of Finland, it is said, are now coming to the fore in the spool wood industry, and their product is encroaching on the market, which has heretofore been held almost exclusively by the American product. Then the manufacturers of spools in England and Scotland have been taking the spool wood as it came along until they are overstocked with the raw product, and consequently are not making contracts for a further supply.

Concerning birch lumber in general the Commercial says:—

"For manufacturing both spool wood and box wood and box shooks the white birch trees are used. The wood of the yellow birch does not meet the demands of the spool manufacturers and will not stand the shipment as the white birch does. There are thousands of acres of birch growth in Maine, with the yellow birch predominating. The yellow birch is used for making hubs, but there are but few hub mills in Maine, and the yellow birch is consequently almost a drug on the market and can be had for almost nothing."

November insolvencies in the Dominion of Canada were 118 in number and $728,418 in amount of liabilities. This is a moderate increase, both in number and amount, as compared with either of the two years immediately preceding. In November, 1904, there were 99 failures, for $649,757, and in 1903 the showing was still better—89 suspensions, involving $620,513. This year's manufacturing disasters were 30 in number and $340,485 in amount, against 25 failures last year for $198,484. Most of the increase was due to two large defaults—those of a pork packer and a power company. Trading failures numbered 84, with debts of $370,433, against 74 for $451,273 a year ago.

The separation of church and state in France has been finally accomplished, by a vote of 181 to 102 in the Senate. The fundamental principle of the bill ensures liberty of conscience respecting religion, with restrictions concerning the exercise of religion which are intended to preserve public order. In the future the state will be entirely free from connection with all religious services.

The assassination of Lieut.-Gen. Sakharoff, former minister of war in Russia, shows that the government has a task of terrible magnitude, and that the passions of the people have not been subdued. Nevertheless, there is still ground for confidence that the support of the better elements among the Russian people will enable the government to carry out the programme of reform.

The Quebec mob which assailed Madame Bernhardt did its best to deserve the harsh things she was alleged to have said about French-Canadians, although she asserts in a later interview that she never made the statements attributed to her by a Quebec newspaper.

The proposed union of the Baptist church congregations received its quietus last night, so far as one of them is concerned, and there is grave doubt whether the other two will agree to a union.

Lord Grey may be asked to resign the governor-generalship. He has entertained Bernhardt at luncheon.

BACK TO THE LAND

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

Not only does the most generous giving on the part of philanthropists fail to solve the problem of the unemployed in London, but it does not satisfy the beneficiaries themselves. For a member of the British Royal Family to be insulted in the streets of London is an incident as remarkable as regrettable. No reigning house in the world is more popular with its subjects, and the Princess Royal has always been admired and respected. Yet her appearance at a place where the poor and hungry were to be housed and fed was the signal for a most disgraceful demonstration. We cannot suppose that the Princess herself was the real object of the mob's enmity. It is more natural to believe that it was the work with which she was identifying herself that excited hostility. With this feeling every self-respecting man can sympathize, though all must deplore the fact that it chose such a victim. The workless men of England want work, not alms. They want their chance in life, and every vestige of manhood in them must revolt at the thought that insane theories of economics condemn them to virtual beggary. As we pointed out the other day, Canada needs these men on her farms. The shiftless English artisan we do not want, but every Briton who is willing to become a farmer or a stock-raiser should be welcomed to this country. As a race, the English are country people, just as the Italians are musical and Germans philosophical. Even in the veins of the Cockney is latent the land-love of the Englishman. All that is necessary to transform the denizen of the slums into the settler of the prairie is a few months' training. To turn him out untrained would be to cast into the sea a man who cannot swim. But at little cost it should be possible to give to any unemployed and able-bodied man in England a few rough but wholesome lessons that would fit him for a new and better life in Canada. Why should not the matter be taken up sympathetically by the governments of both countries? If we wait a year we may be sure that in the meantime the situation will grow steadily worse.

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A DELIGHTFUL EVENING

Was Spent by All Who Attended Dr. Main's Lecture Last Night.

Dr. Wm. H. Main's lecture in the Star course, delivered in York theatre last night, was an intellectual treat and was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. Rev. George M. Campbell presided and introduced the lecturer, who for an hour and a half held his audience spell bound by his wit and eloquence.

Dr. Main took for his subject "The family that lives in the basement," and commenced with a little parable of how Mr. and Mrs. Complacency moved into the town of Opportunity and secured a house in Advantage avenue by the name of Character. They were contented to live in the basement but their son, Mr. Determine, and his wife, formerly Miss Purpose, were wiser and occupied the upper floors. The lecturer dwelt briefly on the five steps which led from the basement. He called them, Drudgery, Patient continuance, Earnestness, Right Ambition and Courage. Funny stories, witty sayings and sound advice abounded in his address. Towards the close Dr. Main spoke of knowledge, moral qualities, courtesy and character which were the mottoes on the floors of the building. Each was lightly touched upon and illustrated. To "point a moral and adorn a tale" at one and the same time, is a gift possessed by few and Dr. Main was successful in a marked degree. He has a pleasant speaking voice, a convincing manner and a thorough knowledge of his subject. No better evening's entertainment can be wished for. The audience is said to have been the largest which ever paid admission to an entertainment in York theatre.

Dr. Main is the pastor of the South Baptist church Hartford (Conn.) and president of the State Baptist conference.

NOVA SCOTIA'S CROP REPORT

T'was a Poor Year for Apples But Prices Were High---Other Crops Had Good Output.

The report issued by the commissioner of agriculture of the province of Nova Scotia dealing with the crops of that province shows that the crop output was, with the exception of apples, very favorable. The summary is as follows:

"In presenting my summer crop report, which was made up from reports received up to the first of July, the estimate given at that time was fairly favorable for the growth of all crops except fruit. From returns now received from every part of the province up to November 6th, the indications are that we have had a better season for the growth of crops than for several years, that is if we except apples. Although the dry weather which set in the middle of July and continued the remainder of the season retarded the growth of vegetables, especially turnips and mangels, to a considerable extent yet our most important crop, hay, reaches for the whole province an average of 99 per cent. Oats 95 per cent. and potatoes 98 per cent. From returns from the various parts of the County of Annapolis the average for hay is 115 per cent, Digby County 110 per cent, Guysboro, 100 per cent, Halifax 100 per cent, Hants 113 per cent, Kings 112 per cent, Lunenburg 110 per cent, Queens 100 per cent, and Yarmouth 100 per cent, while many other counties reach from 90 to 99 and only three counties as low as 80 to 90 per cent.

"It is noticeable from the returns that in the best agricultural counties and parts of counties where the most modern methods of farming are carried on the percent is much larger than in sections where the old methods are still in use. On the whole I think the province may be congratulated upon having received a bountiful harvest. Hay, oats, wheat and potatoes are the most important crops and have reached a high average, while peas, beans, rye and buckwheat which are only grown in small quantities have only reached a small per cent, the season not being favorable for their growth.

"Owing to the condition of the season during blossom time many parts of the fruit district were seriously affected, consequently the apple crop varies in different districts, and even in the same orchard, some varieties being quite a failure, while others have yielded well. It is hard to get an exact estimate of the quantity, but probably as a whole it will not reach more than 60 per cent, and yet with the large number of trees in bearing the total yield is variously estimated at from three to five hundred thousand barrels for export and local market. Probably four hundred thousand barrels will be a reasonable estimate, and with the present high prices at home, $2.25 to $2.50 per barrel, they will yield a cash return of close to one million dollars.

GOOD WORDS FOR FATHER SAVAGE

MONCTON, Dec. 6—The congregation of St. Bernard's church will shortly commence the work of re-seating their church. Pews of a modern style are to be put in to replace the chairs in use at the present time. The church has a very large seating capacity and the cost of the work will be considerable. It was the intention of the late Father Meahan, who built the church, to have the pews put in, but the work was delayed in consequence of his undertaking in connection with the establishing of Mary's Home. Of late Father Savage, Father Meahan's successor, realizing that the re-seating of the church should be delayed no longer, has been gathering models of pews and estimates of the cost, and it is expected that the work will be commenced in the near future. Since his recovery from his recent illness Father Savage has entered energetically upon his pastoral duties, and is well liked by his people. He is not only popular with the members of his own congregation, but he is also popular among citizens generally who have made the acquaintance of the new pastor of St. Bernard's. Father Duke of St. John, and Father Henry Cormier, his assistants, are rendering Father Savage good assistance in the large field coming under his jurisdiction.

The I.C.R. track department is busy preparing for the storms of the winter. Today men are at work erecting portable snow fences along the track to the west of the Moncton yard. The walk between the main station and the rest house and station building has been closed in to shut out the snow, and preparations are in progress in other directions to be ready in case of a repetition of last winter's big storms.

The Moncton Curling Club gave a most enjoyable and successful whist party in the banquet hall of the rink last night. About seventy of the members and their lady friends were present. The ladies' prize was won by Mrs. C. D. Thomson, and the gentlemen's prize by J. W. D. Cooke. Refreshments were served by the ladies of St. George's Guild.

The largest porker of the season was exhibited in the city market today. The animal dressed weighed 500 lbs. The porker was fed by Lafayette Jonah, of Berry's Mills, and holds the record of the Moncton market so far this season.

Repairs made necessary by the recent fire are being made to the Minto Hotel. The office of the house will be improved by taking out the posts and furnace pipe. The hot water heating system is being extended to all parts of the house. Mr. Gallagher has not yet got a settlement with the insurance people for the damage done to his furniture.

W. F. Humphrey has returned from a business trip to Newfoundland.

Navigation is about closed in the Petitcodiac river. There is considerable running ice in the river today, and the indications are that another cold snap will close this part. The steamer Wilfred C., which arrived here yesterday with the balance of the cargo from the wrecked schooner Annie Pearl, is loading today with produce, shipped by the wholesalers, for Harvey.

The insurance underwriters will sell the wrecked schooner Annie Pearl, owned by T. P. Reid & Co. of Moncton, at the Joggins on Friday, 8th inst.

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How often we hear this when the sufferer is beyond earthly hope. Every home should have a bottle of Nerviline on hand which prevents the evil effects of chills. Polson's Nerviline given real hot will break up any cold in one night. Good to rub on, splendid to take inside. You can't beat Nerviline's record in relieving colds, pains, and aches of every kind. Worth its weight in gold, but sold in 25c. bottles everywhere.

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