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ALFRED MARKHAM,
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THE SEMI-WEEKLY SUN

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 4, 1903.

MR. BLAIR WINS.

The Tweedie-Pugsley government has not carried the province. There has been no expression of confidence in that administration. The electors may not have done their duty, but they have not endorsed the provincial government led by Mr. Tweedie. It is, of course, not disputed that a victory has been won over the opposition party led by Mr. Hazen. But no sane person will say that Mr. Tweedie and his colleagues had any real share in the contest, or have any part in the victory except the fruits of it. It was Mr. Blair's fight and it is his victory.

Mr. Blair has said so himself. When he came a fortnight before the election the provincial government had no friends worth mentioning. It had no case. The people wanted to get rid of the combination. The local leaders knew it, and did not venture to organize until Mr. Blair came to do it for them. They even postponed their first mass meeting in St. John until the minister of railways came, because no one could be got to take the slightest interest in the proceedings. When Blair came and saw that the local government was held in contempt he concluded that the only chance of success was to efface the provincial administration altogether and make the fight his own. In this he was more successful than might have been suspected. He did his part boldly. No pretense was made by Mr. Blair that he was here as a supporter of the local government on its merits. Instead of presenting Mr. Blair as a supporter of the provincial ministers he presented the provincial ministers as supporters of Mr. Blair. Care was taken not to discuss them in any other light. As administrators, legislators, or representatives of the people, the less said about them the better. All that could be said in their favor was that they were supporters of Mr. Blair. It is true that Mr. Tweedie did not support the Laurier candidate in Northumberland. No matter. He opposed the Laurier candidate at Mr. Blair's request.

The humility with which the local ministers and their supporters, particularly the candidates in this city, effaced themselves was wonderful. They made it clear that they expected and deserved no support on their own account. They were in the field to hold up the hands of Mr. Blair. They had no other purpose in politics or in life. The minister of railways likes that kind of men. He gets clear of those who have too much respect for themselves. They are read out of the party. So it happens that while Mr. Tweedie and Dr. Pugsley are Blair liberals in good standing, Mr. Ellis is in outer darkness.

As the Tweedie-Pugsley government is not a factor in the case, and as Mr. Blair is the only element that counts, let us see how much of a victory Mr. Blair has won, and how he obtained it. In St. John city two years and a half ago Mr. Blair was elected by 997 majority. On Saturday his ticket was returned, even if the whole of it is elected, by an average majority of about 200. Westmorland, which was divided in the last provincial election, and which in the dominion election was carried by the government with a majority of 486, goes for Mr. Blair's candidates by a majority somewhat smaller than in 1900. In the north shore counties, all traversed by the Intercolonial, only Northumberland goes against the government, the average opposition majority in that county being about 200. In Kings and Albert the minister was also successful, as well as in Queens and York. He failed in Sunbury, though he did his best there to defeat Mr. Hazen, and he failed also in Carleton and Charlotte. In Victoria one member for the recognized government ticket was elected and one defeated, but both seem to have been returned in Madawaska. On the whole Mr. Blair may well be congratulated on his success in electing supporters of the Tweedie government. He has not defeated the opposition leader, and he nearly lost the candidate whom he calls his own right arm. But the government is strong enough to do anything that Mr. Blair requires of it.

Such is the extent of the victory. Now as to the means. Mr. Blair did not win by his public speeches. They accomplished only one purpose, and that was to show that the fight was his, and that all who enjoyed his confidence or expected favors or patronage from him were expected to do their duty. These speeches were so exceedingly peremptory as to give serious offence to liberals who desired to own themselves. Mr. Blair probably knew that he was taking this risk, but considered that the element which would respond to an imperious order was large enough to justify the despotism. If any one will take up the report of the auditor general of Canada he will find the names of sixty firms and individuals in St. John city alone who in 1901 furnished supplies or performed services to the railway department to amounts of $150,000 or $200,000 down to $100. Two or three of these received over $100,000 each and a great number from $10,000 to $100,000 each. In the province outside of St. John there are some seventy-five such contractors who received from $120,000 down to $100. Then there are the other departments, all controlled, so far as this province is concerned, by Mr. Blair, who is the only New Brunswick minister. One of these gives out the steamship subsidies, another handles the lighthouse and fishery cruiser service. Another controls the expenditure here for immigration and quarantine, and there is also the department of public works. All the patronage of all these departments was in Mr. Blair's mind when he made his appeals. Those who saw who were at work about the polls on Saturday, who discovered how suddenly some business men became supporters of a local government for which they have frequently expressed contempt, who have seen some earnest opponents of the government forced reluctantly to remain quiet and take no part, will agree that this power was in the minds of many others.

Mr. Blair's public speeches were supplemented by more direct heart to heart talks by himself and his agents. The minister himself went to some who do business with the railway, and who were understood to be unfriendly to the government. Others were visited by well instructed persons. Contractors were expected not only to be in line themselves, but to bring in their near relatives and their employes. Many men who are not now contractors have reason to believe that they will be at an early day. The same direct influence that was exerted in St. John was used in Westmoreland and other counties.

Next to the power of Mr. Blair as a purchaser of supplies and an awarder of contracts, is his more direct power as an employer of labor. In St. John the number of government employes far exceeds the government majority. In Westmorland the railway vote is much larger than the majority of the government. In both counties and along the line of railway, precautions were taken by the campaign managers of the government to see how each man voted. The ballot which Mr. McKeown praises, for the same reason that one praises the bridge which carries him over, makes this supervision easy. The railway men do not like the Tweedie government better than other people do, but most of them are not yet ready to lose their means of livelihood, and doom their wives and children to destitution even in a cause so good as that. The power of Mr. Blair over the fortunes of government employes is alone sufficient to account for the defeat of eight opposition candidates in St. John and Westmoriand, which two counties alone would have brought Mr. Hazen's party up to twenty, and thus probably ensured the defeat of the Tweedie government. In fact, Mr. Tweedie's own seat has been saved by federal government power and influence over contractors and employes.

Take the effect of this influence exerted in another way. Mr. Mott might have been beaten in Restigouche if his colleague had not retired. Running alone against a ticket he was at a great disadvantage. It was important therefore that Mr. Culligan should withdraw. The Blair organs predicted that this would happen. They knew that members of Mr. Culligan's family were among the largest contractors for lumber and ties for the Intercolonial, and were confident that he would not resist the pressure brought upon him. Mr. Culligan did retire not many hours before nomination, and this gave the county to the opposition. We are not now finding fault with Mr. Culligan. He may have been to blame, but the extent of his error can only be known to those who understood his situation. Again it was announced, not in the opposition papers, but in the government press, that an influential gentleman in Kent county had decided to lead an opposition ticket. If he had done so he would not only have placed the three government seats in danger, but would have encouraged the opposition fight elsewhere. This gentleman has, however, certain important interests which may be seriously affected by the action of the railway department at Ottawa. A meeting took place between him and Mr. Blair, and so the prospective opposition candidate went back to take the stump for the government interest in Kent. We need not say anything of the influence of other railway projects which figured in the Westmorland, Kings, Queens, Sunbury and York elections.

We hardly need mention the other way in which Mr. Blair's position enabled him to carry the province in this election. Men who are accustomed to campaigns know pretty well what they are meeting at the polls. It is the opinion of those who were actively engaged on Saturday's battle, that the government campaign fund was the largest ever handled in this province. Certainly nothing was ever seen in this city in the way of corrupt expenditure at all to be compared with Saturday's exhibition. Votes never commanded so high a price. Money was never so flaunted in the face of the voter, and never was there such an utter and reckless disregard of appearances. We happen to know that between $65,000 and $70,000 was received at St. John and distributed amongst the constituencies a few days before the election. This was deemed insufficient at the last moment and a sum of over $30,000 was ordered. It arrived at St. John on election day.

Now this was not furnished by local men. The subscriptions from St. John capitalists, even those who get the largest contracts, were only moderate. If the local government had a campaign fund, obtained from persons who receive favors from Mr. Tweedie, the heads of departments kept it for their own constituencies. No one cares enough about the Tweedie-Pugsley combination to subscribe a cent to keep it in power. The general fund for this election was raised by Mr. Blair, and the most of it was raised outside of the province. Well, this money is not contributed out of personal affection for Mr. Blair. It comes from some persons who are looking for an equivalent if they have not yet received one. We do not know who these persons are. It is known that during the last week of the campaign a group of capitalists were before the federal government asking for subsidies to a transcontinental railway, a matter of say twenty millions. Two other groups will be there demanding amounts about as large. There is a project for the purchase of a railway by the government, and there are a great number of schemes involving millions of dollars, with which Mr. Blair must deal. Under these circumstances it is not difficult to obtain subscriptions to a fund in which the minister of railways is greatly interested.

So Mr. Blair has won his election. He has imposed upon the province a ministry that the people did not want. He has imposed upon this city four representatives who would have been beaten by fifteen hundred to two thousand majority if they and the local government had been left to fight it out themselves on their merits. What Mr. Tweedie would do if left alone may be guessed by what happened in his own county.

We congratulate Mr. Hazen on the fine fight he has made for good government and on the successful contest made by him and Mr. Glasier in Sunbury. We congratulate the opposition in Northumberland on the splendid result of their action. The party in Charlotte and Carleton also deserves congratulations. But equally do we commend the opposition in St. John and other constituencies where they failed but where they made a campaign that deserved to succeed.

BATHURST.

His Second Escape From Jail—Severe Accident.

BATHURST, March 2.—Thibedeau, whose trial is to commence tomorrow before the circuit court, for burglarizing several stores and breaking out of jail three weeks ago, again made his escape from jail on Saturday night. The prisoner cut a hole in the ceiling of his cell, from this he raised a board in the stairway, which let him into the main entrance of the hall way, from which he escaped through a window. No trace of his whereabouts can be obtained.

Chas. Boss, one of our esteemed citizens, met with a severe accident on Saturday by a fall. Several ribs were broken, and it is feared that he has received internal injuries.

SUSSEX NEWS.

SUSSEX, March 2.— Rev. Dr. McLean, editor of the Halifax Wesleyan, will lecture on Tuesday evening in the Methodist Church, Sussex, on The Canadian Northwest.

In the Free Baptist Church last evening, in the presence of a large congregation, Rev. B. H. Nobles gave the hand of fellowship and welcome to ten persons. Mr. Nobles gave his second sermon on "The Unpardonable Sin."

ANNAPOLIS NEWS.

ANNAPOLIS, March 2.—T. W. Pickles of this town left Halifax for the West Indies last Thursday.

The Clifton House will again be put on the list of Annapolis summer hotels, this time under the management of J. McMullin.

Mrs. Margaret Morrow, 92 years of age, died at her home on St. George street last week.

The electric lights have been turned out for the past week, and as a consequence the town has been in darkness.

CARRIE NATION ARRESTED.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 2.—Carrie Nation was arrested at the Grand Hotel last night on a charge of malicious mischief preferred by a saloon keeper in whose place she broke a bottle of whiskey. Early today she was released on bail furnished by her manager.

The work of placing the large ten foot cross surmounting St. Peter's church steeple, in an erect position again, will entail considerable work and quite a large sum of money. During one of Saturday night's terrific gusts the sacred emblem was blown about two and a half feet out of position.

The Grip Leaves Thousands in its Path Weak, Nervous, Dyspeptic, Catarrh Wrecks.

"For Grip and the after effects like debility, nervousness, dyspepsia and other catarrhal conditions resulting from the Grip, in the entire Materia Medica I have found no remedy that equals Peruna for prompt action."—Dr. S. B. Hartman, President The Hartman Sanitarium.

From N. Y. Journal. "During the recent Grip epidemic claiming a million victims or more, the efficiency of Peruna in quickly relieving this malady and its after-effects has been the talk of the continent."

LIKE A DEMON grip has crossed our country, leaving behind scores of physical wrecks.

Victims of catarrh of the head, catarrh of the throat, catarrh of the lungs, catarrh of the stomach, catarrh of the kidneys, catarrh of the pelvic organs, are to be counted by hundreds of thousands. Grip is epidemic catarrh, and sows the seed of chronic catarrh within the system.

This is so true that few grip sufferers are able to make a complete recovery until they have used Peruna.

Never in the history of medicine has a remedy received such unqualified and universal eulogies as Peruna.

A New York Alderman's Experience.

Hon. Joseph A. Flinn, alderman Fifth District, writes from 104 Christopher street, New York City, as follows:

"When a pestilence overtakes our people we take precaution as a nation to preserve the citizens against the dread disease.

"La grippe has entered thousands of our homes this fall, and I noticed that the people who used Peruna were quickly restored, while those who depended on doctor's prescriptions, spent weeks in recovering, leaving them weak and emaciated.

"I had a slight attack of la grippe and at once took Peruna, which drove the disease out of my system in a few days and did not hinder me from pursuing my daily work.

"I should like to see our Board of Health give it official recognition and have it used generally among our poor sick people in Greater New York."—Joseph A. Flinn.

D. L. Wallace, a charter member of the International Barber's Union, writes from 15 Western avenue, Minneapolis, Minn.:

"Following a severe attack of la grippe I seemed to be affected badly all over. I suffered with a severe backache, indigestion and numerous ills, so I could neither eat nor sleep, and I thought I would give up my work, which I could not afford to do.

"One of my customers who was greatly helped by Peruna advised me to try it, and I procured a bottle the same day. I used it faithfully and felt a marked improvement. During the next two months I took five bottles, and then felt splendid. Now my head is clear, my nerves steady, I enjoy food, and rest well. Peruna has been worth a dollar a dose to me."—D. L. Wallace.

Mr. O. H. Perry, Atchison, Kansas, writes:

"Again, after repeated trials of your medicines, Peruna and Manalin, I give this as my expression of the wonderful results of your very valuable medicine in its effects in my case after repeated trials.

"First, it cured me of chronic bronchitis of fifteen years' standing by using two bottles of Peruna in January, 1894, and no return of it.

"After I was cured of bronchitis I had la grippe every winter for several winters. But, through the use of Peruna, it got gradually weaker in its severity, until it dwindled down to a mere stupor for two or three days. Now the stupor does not trouble me any more."—O. H. Perry.

A Congressman's Experience.

House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, Ohio.

Gentlemen—"I am more than satisfied with Peruna, and find it to be an excellent remedy for the grip and catarrh. I have used it in my family and they all join me in recommending it as an excellent remedy."

Very respectfully,
George H. White.

If you do not receive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case, and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, O.

BRITISH LIBERALS

Weak in Army Debate in House of Commons.

Their Case Against Mr. Brodrick's Scheme Largely Failed from Divided Policy and Purpose.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—A majority of 118 for the government against Mr. Beckett's amendment on army reform well illustrated the impotence of the opposition.

A stronger case the liberal party could scarcely have had.

Mr. Brodrick's scheme is regarded with open contempt by many of the staunchest ministerialists and Mr. Balfour in the excellent speech with which he closed the debate almost abandoned the defence of it.

Yet with all that the government substantially maintained its accustomed preponderance. All the heart is taken out of a session by such a result at the beginning of it.

Mr. Asquith spoke as if an amendment to the address, being a vote of "no confidence," must always be defeated by the full strength of the administration, but if that were so the logical consequence would be that no government could ever be defeated on a serious issue in the house of commons.

The circumstances of this division were unusual. It is almost unprecedented, as Mr. Balfour pointed out, for a vote of censure to be both moved and seconded, as this was, from the ministerial side, and as a matter of fact twenty conservatives went into the "aye' lobby. If the mutineers had been fifty instead of twenty the majority for the government would still have been large.

It is true the Irish nationalists abstained from voting and thus widened, if that be possible, the gulf which separates them from British liberals, but as there is not the slightest chance of a liberal majority at the next election against the tories and Irish combined this fact can bring no comfort to the defeated and disorganized opposition.

From a national point of view, however, the debate will do good. Winston Churchill, who proudly boasts of having been the only conservative to vote against Mr. Brodrick's scheme two years ago, made a very brilliant, pungent attack upon the phantom army corps.

Either, as Mr. Churchill neatly puts it, we have too many soldiers or too few sailors. Yet we have not nearly so many soldiers in reality as we have on paper.

Mr. Asquith ably pressed the point that the resources of available taxation would not bear the strain of an

ELECTRIC POWER.

Railroads of Great Britain Will All Be Equipped With Electric Motors.

LONDON, March 1.—Important conferences between the consulting engineers of all the railroads of Great Britain are being held with the object of deciding on a uniform scheme for electric equipment, whereby the rolling stock and electric motors of the various companies will be able to travel indiscriminately on all the lines. The trunk companies have all practically decided to use electric motors and then suburban lines are only awaiting an agreement on the subject of uniformity of plant. Six officials of the traffic and engineering departments of the London and Northwestern R. R. have sailed for New York to make a further study of American methods.

FIRE AT HALIFAX.

HALIFAX, March 1—The most disastrous Halifax fire in ten years occurred on Saturday night, when Moir Sons & Company's bread, biscuit and confectionery factory, an immense brick structure, was burned to the ground and half a dozen wooden buildings were more or less completely destroyed. The fire broke out in the confectionery department of the factory just after the men had left work.

In ten minutes great volumes of smoke were pouring out from the windows, and in half an hour flames were seen in possession of a large part of the building. In two hours after the alarm nothing was left standing of the building, which faces on three streets, except portions of the walls, most of them having fallen. The firemen were able to confine the conflagration to the factory and to the buildings adjoining and immediately opposite.

The city hall, on the other side of the street, was saved by the fire department after having been twice on fire. A large detachment of the royal garrison reserve regiment assisted the fire department. What made the situation more serious was that a strong southwesterly gale was blowing.

Moir Son & Co.'s loss is $100,000, with insurance amounting to $66,500. The other loss of $40,000 is about half covered by insurance. Moirs had the contract to supply the military with bread. They baked half the bread used in the city.

CUT OUT.

(New York Evening Sun.)

Adam and Eve were trying to make the best of matters.

"At least," he said, hopefully, "we can write something. Books on gardens seem to be all the rage."

However, as Milton swiped what notes they made on the subject, even this was denied them.

EASTON, Pa., March 2.—Six men are thought to be dead and 25 or 30 others injured, several of them seriously, from the effects of an explosion at the Edison cement plant at New Village, N. J., seven miles from here, on the line of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western. A large part of the plant was burned.

A LAYMAN

Gave Doctor a hint about Coffee.

Speaking of coffee a doctor of Decaturville, Ohio, says: "We used to analyze coffee at the Medical college and in spite of our laboratory tests which showed it to contain caffine, an active poison, I continued to use the drink, and later on found myself affected with serious stomach trouble, indigestion, headaches, etc.

The headaches came on so regularly and oppressed me so that I found it difficult to attend to my regular duties. One day last November I met a friend whom I had known to be similarly afflicted. His marked improvement in appearance caused me to enquire what he had been doing. He announced that he had, some time ago, quit coffee and was using Postum Food Coffee, to this change he attributed the change in his health.

I took the hint, even from a layman, and made the same change myself. The first week I noticed a little difference, but not much. The third week the change was almost magical. I have continued with the Postum and now my digestion is perfect, the nervous headaches have entirely disappeared, and I am well. My own analysis of the Postum Food Coffee shows it to be a pure food drink of strong character which is a marked contrast to the old fashioned coffee." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

GLASGOW HOARY WITH AGE.

Scottish Metropolis Was Founded 1,800 Years Ago.

We hear a great deal in these days in praise of Glasgow as a truly model city and of its municipalising in the interest of the citizens nearly every public franchise. That is all true and Glasgow highly merits any praise bestowed upon it. At present, however, we would briefly remind our readers of Glasgow in the olden time—hundreds of years before it obtained its present state of perfection—and of which we now rarely hear a word.

It is about 1,800 years since Glasgow was founded by Kentigern or St. Mungo, but the city did not amount to much until after the act of union between Scotland and England, about 200 years ago. It was that act which enabled the merchant adventurers of Glasgow to send out their ships to Virginia and Maryland here for cargoes of tobacco leaf. Thus tobacco manufacture was the first important foreign trade and home industry established by Glasgow enterprise.

Very soon the city became the centre of the tobacco traffic. For a long time thereafter the "tobacco lords" of Glasgow—in their scarlet robes and on their own privileged beat—were almost as strongly marked figures in history as were the merchants of Venice. When the American colonies revolted and the United States republic was established Glasgow lost its flourishing tobacco trade, but some of the "tobacco lords" who held heavy stocks, made enormous fortunes by the rise in prices. These fortunes formed the foundations of larger enterprises everywhere, and the begetting of the numerous "merchant princes" that soon characterized Glasgow.

When driven from Virginia the adventurers established trade with the West Indies, where sugar succeeded tobacco as the staple of trade. Then came cotton and next coal, which was soon followed by iron. Meantime there had been a continuous development of trade with India, with China, with South America, with the United States and ultimately with Australia and New Zealand. Till then the Clyde had been little better than a stagnant ditch, but Glasgow by degrees formed a deep, broad, navigable waterway, and then came commerce and shipbuilding.

ODD PORTUGUESE POTTERY.

In Portugal may be seen some very quaint pottery. One article represents two oxen ploughing, and another a lordly lion with a most extraordinary tail. Clay figures of this kind are very popular in Portugal, especially in the rural districts, and are regarded with much admiration by the peasantry.

A few noted ethnologists have recently been devoting much time to the study of Portuguese folklore, and they claim that these pieces of pottery, as well as certain amulets which are used for medical purposes, have been of considerable service to them in this respect.

The Portuguese, they point out, cling most conservatively to the habits and customs of their ancestors, and as a result in many parts of the country may be found today the same kind of vessels and other articles that were in use centuries ago. Naturally, a rich find of this kind is of great assistance to those who are studying the country's myths and legends.

It is said that efforts have been made to introduce clay lions with natural tails, but wholly without result.

INTERFERENCE WITH CONJUGAL RIGHTS.

(Atlanta Constitution.)

"I'm opposed to these here White Caps," said the strong-pointed woman of Billville.

"Yor sir!"

"Yes, I sir. I've been a whippin' of my husband for ten year—come Christmas—an' last night they called on him an' just took the job right out o' my hands!"