

PROVINCIAL SUBSIDIES

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Proposed Amendment of the B. N. A. Act.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Sir Wilfrid Laurier gave notice on Friday night of an address to his Majesty for an amendment to the B. N. A. Act to amend the scale of payments to be made by Canada, to the several provinces of the Dominion for the support of their Government and Legislatures. The proposed amendments are as follows:—

A. Instead of the amounts now paid, the sums hereafter payable yearly by Canada to the several provinces for the support of their Governments and Legislatures, to be according to population, and as follows:—

1. Where the population of the province is under 150,000, \$100,000.
 2. Where the population of the province is 150,000, but does not exceed 300,000, \$150,000.
 3. Where the population of the province is 300,000, but does not exceed 500,000, \$200,000.
 4. Where the population of the province is 500,000, but does not exceed 700,000, \$250,000.
 5. Where the population of the province is 700,000, but does not exceed 1,000,000, \$300,000.
 6. Where the population of the province exceeds 1,000,000, \$400,000.
- B. Instead of an annual grant per head of population now allowed, the annual payment hereafter to be at the same rate of eighty cents per head,

but on the population of each province, as ascertained from time to time by the last decennial census, until such population exceeds 2,300,000, and at the rate of sixty cents per head for so much of said population as may exceed 2,300,000.

C. An additional allowance to the extent of \$100,000 annually for ten years to the Province of British Columbia.

AN UNALTERABLE SETTLEMENT.

The resolution proceeds:—"We pray that your Majesty may be graciously pleased to cause a measure to be laid before the Imperial Parliament at its present session repealing the provisions of section 118 of the B. N. A. Act, 1867, aforesaid, and substituting therefor the scale of payments above set forth, which shall be a final and unalterable settlement of the amounts to be paid yearly to the several provinces of the Dominion for their local purposes and the support of their Government and Legislatures.

"Such grants shall be paid half-yearly in advance to each province, but the Government of Canada shall deduct from such grants as against any province all sums chargeable as interest on the public debt of that province in excess of the several amounts stipulated in the said Act.

"All of which we humbly pray your Majesty to take into your favorable and gracious consideration."

LEADING MARKETS

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, March 19.—Call board quotations are:—

Wheat—Ontario, No. 2 red, 72½c asked, outside, 72c bid; No. 2 mixed, 72½c asked outside, 71½c bid 78 per cent. points; No. 2 goose, 66c bid, east.

Barley—No. 2, 53½c bid east; No. 3 extra, 50c bid 78 per cent. points; No. 3, 50c bid 78 per cent. points.

Peas—80c asked, outside, 79½c bid outside, 79½c bid C.P.R., 80c bid C.P.R. 78 per cent. points.

Oats—No. 2 white, 39½c asked on five-cent rate to Toronto, 38½c bid; sales at 39½c f.o.b., 78 per cent. points, March shipment.

Other prices are:—Wheat—Ontario—Continues firm; No. 2 white winter, 72c to 72½c; No. 2 red, 71c to 72c; No. 2 mixed, 71c to 72c.

Manitoba Wheat—Absence of shipments makes quotations somewhat nominal; No. 1 hard, 87c; No. 1 northern, 86c, lake ports.

Oats—No. 2 white, 39½c to 40½c track Toronto; No. 2 mixed, 39c to 39½c.

Peas—80c to 80½c outside. Corn—No. 3 yellow American, 53½c to 54c, Toronto and west; No. 2 yellow, 45c to 46c, M.C.R. or G.T.R.; Ontario, 46c to 47c, basis Chatham freights.

Buckwheat—57c to 58c, outside. Rye—Continues heavy; offering at 64½c outside.

Barley—Firm; No. 2, 52c to 53c; No. 3 extra, 51c to 51½c; No. 3, 49c to 50c. Flour—Ontario, 90 per cent. patents, \$2.70 asked, \$2.67 bid; Manitoba, first patents, \$4.50; seconds, \$3.75; bakers', \$3.90.

Bran—Nominally \$21 to \$22.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Receipts are fairly good, but the demand is strong, and there is no surplus stock.

Creamery, prints 26c to 27c do solids 23c to 24c Dairy, prints 22c to 23c do tubs 20c to 21c Cheese—14c for large and 14½c for twins.

Eggs—Prices from 20c to 21c. Poultry—Market is very slow and easy.

Ordinary 9c to 10c Inferior 8c to 9c Fowl 8c to 9c Ducks 9c to 11c Geese 9c to 11c Turkeys 11c to 12c

Honey—Pails 11c to 12c per lb., combs \$2 to \$2.50 per doz.

Beans—Steady at \$1.55 for hand-picked and \$1.35 to \$1.45 for primes.

Polatoes—Ontario, 85c to 90c; eastern, 95c to \$1, in car lots here.

Baled Hay—Firm at \$11 to \$11.50 for timothy, \$9.50 to \$10 for secondary grades in car lots on track here.

Straw—6.75 to \$7, in car lots here.

PROVISIONS.

Dressed Hogs—\$9.50 for light and \$9 for heavies, farmers' lots.

Pork—Short cut, \$23 to \$23.50 per barrel; meals, \$21 to \$21.50.

Smoked and Dry Salted Meats—Long clear bacon, 11c to 11½c for tons and cases; hams, medium and light, 15½c to 16c; heavy, 14½c to 15c; backs, 16½c to 17c; shoulders, 11c to 11½c; rolls, 11½c; breakfast bacon, 15½c to 16c; green meats out of pickle, 1c less than smoked.

Lard—Firm; tierces, 12½c; tubs, 12½c; pails, 12½c.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, March 19.—Locally the hay market is unchanged. No. 1 timothy, \$12 to \$13; No. 2, \$11.50 to \$12.50, and for clover, mixed, \$10.50 to \$11.50.

Oats—No. 2, 43c to 44c; No. 3, 42c to 43c, and No. 4, 41c to 42c.

Corn—Prices remain at 56c to 60c, ex-store.

Barley—Nominal at 52c to 54c ex-store Montreal.

Flour—Manitoba grades, \$4 to \$4.10 per bbl., in bags, for strong bakers' and \$4.50 to \$4.60 for patents. Quotations on Ontario are \$3.75 to \$3.85 per bag, and \$1.50 to \$1.60 for extras.

Millfeed—Bran is quoted at \$21, and scots at \$22, although some sales for spot bran have been reported as high as \$23.

Butter—The condition of the butter market is very firm.

Eggs—New-laid are quoted from 23c to 24c.

Cheese—13½c for white and 14c for colored still being quoted.

Provisions—Barrels, short-cut mess, \$22 to \$23.50; half-barrels, \$11.75 to \$12.50; clear fat back, \$24 to \$24.50; long cut heavy mess, \$20.50 to \$22; half-barrels do., \$10.75 to \$11.50; dry salted long clear bacon, 12c to 12½c; barrels plate beef, \$11 to \$12.50; half-barrels do., \$6.25 to \$6.75; barrels heavy mess beef, \$8.50; half-barrels do., \$4.75; compound lard, 8½c to 10½c; pure lard, 11½c to 13c; kettle rendered, 13c to 13½c; hams, 13c to 16½c, according to size; breakfast bacon, 15c to 16c; Windsor bacon, 15½c to 16½c; fresh killed abattoir dressed hogs, \$9.75 to \$10; alive, \$7.15 to \$7.25.

BUFFALO MARKET.

Buffalo, March 19.—Wheat—Spring weak; No. 1 Northern, 89c asked; Winter steady; No. 2 white, 80c. Corn Steady; No. 2 yellow, 51½c; No. 2 white 51½c. Oats—Quiet; No. 2 white, 49½c; No. 2 mixed, 46½c. Rye—Firm; No. 1, 70c, c.i.f., in store.

NEW YORK WHEAT MARKET.

New York, March 19.—Spot steady; No. 2 red, 84c elevator; No. 2 red, 84½c f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 northern Duluth, 92½c f.o.b. afloat, No. 2 hard winter, 87½c f.o.b. afloat.

RAILWAYS' DEATH ROLL

Over Four Hundred Persons Killed in Twenty-Six Months.

A despatch from Ottawa says: In a summary given respecting accidents on railways during the time covered by the report of the Railway Commission from February 1, 1904, to March 31, 1906, it is shown that 402 persons were killed and 144 injured. On the G. T. R. 167 were killed and 40 injured; on the C. P. R. 185 were killed and 59 injured, and on the C. N. R. 27 were killed and 24 injured. Of the total killed 109 were trespassing on the track, 42 were killed at level crossings, 38 employees were killed while shunting, and 15 passengers were killed while attempting to get on a train while in motion. Fifteen passengers and nine employees were killed from head-on collisions, and twenty-five passengers and three employees

injured. From rear-end collisions seventeen passengers and fifteen employees were killed. Of the total fatalities seventy-three were passengers, 168 employees and 161 classed as "other persons."

The commissioners state that on account of the increasing work of the board it will be necessary to have inspectors stationed at different points in Canada, and the board has in contemplation the appointment of several inspectors who, in addition to investigating the circumstances attending accidents, will also examine rolling stock and equipment and report generally respecting the manner in which the various provisions of railway acts and regulations of the board are being observed.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Toronto, March 19.—Export trade was quiet. Quotations were steady and about the same as last week. Choice \$5.05 to \$5.35; medium and light exporters were quoted from \$4.75 to \$5.

Sales of picked butchers' were made at \$5, and straight loads sold as high as \$4.90, with no lack of sales between \$4.65 and \$4.80. Sales of well-finished cows were made up to \$4. Common cattle were off from 10c to 15c.

Stockers were quiet. The firm market for butchers' quickly absorbs anything at all good. A few heavy feeders were sold at \$4.50 to \$4.60.

Milch cows show little change from last market, and trade was rather quiet. Calves are steady and unchanged at 3c to 7c per lb.

Sheep are fairly steady, but lambs are off. Common lambs were from 25c to 50c lower; grain-fed, about 25c.

Hogs were unchanged on a fairly good run. Selects, \$6.85, fed and watered.

KILLED IN COLLISION.

C.P.R. Express Runs Into a Wrecking Train.

A despatch from Port Arthur says: A collision occurred on the C.P.R. on a curve just east of here on Thursday night, when the wrecking train returning from Plat was struck by an express. The crew of the wrecking train saw the express approaching, and all escaped except a man named Palmer of Rossport, who was struck by the locomotive and instantly killed.

Ice on the lake is unusually thick, and the opening of navigation will assuredly be late.

THE ENTERPRISING EMIGRATE.

Britain Being Robbed of the Flower of Her Agricultural Population.

A despatch from London says: The Illustrated London News says that Canada's excellent land and enterprising advertisements will doubtless tend still further to diminish Great Britain's agricultural population, and after a time leave nothing at home but the very young, very old, or very stupid and unenterprising sections of the rural dwellers.

HAD BEEN FROZEN TO DEATH.

Body of Man Who Died on Prairie Found by Police.

A despatch from Saskatoon, Sask., says: The body of Joseph Coarsan, whose death was revealed a few days ago, was brought into town on Saturday evening by Constables Currie and Grey. It was located in a shack in Humboldt district, near where it had been found on the prairie. An inquest is not considered necessary, as the police are satisfied that it is but a case of being lost and frozen to death.

Chief Justice Weatherbee of Nova Scotia has resigned.

ENDED LIFE WITH RIFLE BALL.

Lennox Man Carries Out Threats Previously Made.

A despatch from Kaladar, Ont., says: William P. Berry, who lived with his wife and son about a mile from Kaladar station, committed suicide on Saturday by shooting. For some days he had been threatening to take his own life, but his threats were not taken seriously. After dinner, during which meal Berry showed no signs of mental aberration, the son left to visit his sister, who lives near, and on his not returning, the father sent his wife to bring him home. When Mrs. Berry returned Berry was missing, and a search revealed his dead body, seated in a closet, with a Winchester rifle between his knees and the muzzle lying against his throat. The bullet had passed upward through his head and pierced the roof. Berry, who was 65 years of age, was a veteran of the American Civil War.

QUARREL IN RUSSIAN CAFE.

One Man Has Ear Cut Off—The Other Receives Two Bullet Wounds.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: A shooting affray took place on Sunday night in the dining hall of the Grand Hotel de Europe between Prince Nikaridze, a Marshal of the nobility from Kutais, and Captain Kostoff, of the East Siberia sharpshooters. In the midst of a spirited argument concerning the autonomy of the Caucasus, Prince Nikaridze made a disparaging remark about Russian military prestige. Thereupon Captain Kostoff drew his sabre and cut off the Prince's ear. Reaching into his pocket the Prince pulled a revolver and taking aim fired twice, the bullet penetrating the neck and the breast of the captain. A surgeon was called in and sewed on the severed ear. Captain Kostoff's wounds are dangerous.

SHOT HIS BROTHER.

Sad Accident in a Manitoba Family—Three-year-old Boy Killed.

A despatch from Fannystelle, Man., says: The seven-year-old son of F. Beattie on Tuesday afternoon, in the temporary absence of his parents, picked up a loaded rifle which had been left standing behind the door and accidentally shot his three-year-old brother, killing him instantly. The bullet penetrated the little fellow's eye.

SEVEN DECAPITATED.

Work of Russian Robbers—Witnesses of Slaughter Lost Their Reason.

A despatch from Yolisavegrad, Russia, says: An estate in this vicinity was attacked by robbers on Thursday, who bound and decapitated the proprietor, five laborers, and a woman. Two witnesses of the slaughter, a soldier, who hid in a haystack, and a child, lost their reason. The soldier subsequently died in a hospital of delirium. The booty amounted to \$1,000.

HOW A FOREST GROWS.

Trees Have to Fight for Life, and Only a Small Proportion Survive.

In order to understand fully the planting and tending of forest trees, it is necessary for one first to understand how a forest starts and develops throughout its history.

Take a case where a fire has burned off a tract of land which before was covered with forest, or a tract where all the trees have been blown down by a severe windstorm. On this ground seeds from neighboring trees may fall in large numbers. Some of these will germinate, though perhaps only a small part of those that fell, for Nature is very lavish in such cases.

After a year or two a great many little seedling trees will be found. For a few years every one of these little seedlings will have full chance to grow and develop as it likes. It will have to meet many dangers—those from drought and frost and too much rainfall, for instance—and naturally many of these young trees will die from such causes. But when these are overcome each little tree can grow ahead at its best rate for some time, enjoying as much as it likes of soil, space and light.

THE FIGHTING BEGINS.

As the years pass, however, and the little trees grow, the time comes when the crowns of the trees begin to touch one another (the term "crown" means the branches and foliage of the tree as a whole). Thus the soil is now almost completely shaded, and is benefited by being so shaded and is also made richer by the leaf-mould or humus made by the decay of the leaves and twigs fallen from the trees.

The trees themselves are also greatly affected. Every tree, of course, just like all other plants, must have light in order to make its own food and so make a healthy growth; if its supply of light is cut off, the tree is hindered and perhaps killed altogether. But the tree can no longer grow out sideways, for all the space in that direction is occupied. So it spends all its strength in growing upward. The fastest and strongest growers are the trees that finally survive. The effect of having the light cut off is shown in the lower branches. These become sickly and finally die, and in time are blown off by the wind or knocked off through being struck by other branches or are broken off in some other way.

In the meantime the fastest growing trees are getting the most light, and so they have the best chance for development. Having got above the other trees, they get the chance to spread out sideways, and so to hinder by their shadows, perhaps, finally to kill their slower-growing companions. This process will go on year after year, and in the end

but a small part of the trees which originally started in the race will be alive.

ACTUAL EXAMPLES.

The results of actual work done in the forests shows this nicely. In the Turtle Mountain Forest Reserve, in Manitoba, where the commonest tree is the poplar, it was found that, while the average number of poplar trees per acre when the trees were ten years old was four thousand (4,000); when the trees had reached eighty years of age, the number was reduced to three hundred (300). At forty years of age there had been 850 left, and at sixty years 425 had remained.

The White Pine in New England was studied some time ago by the United States Forest Service. In this case it was discovered that, while at ten years of age there were twenty-two hundred (2,200) trees per acre, at sixty years of age there were only two hundred and sixty (260). At thirty years of age there were 1,090 (just about half the number at ten years), at forty years 690 and at the end of half a century of growth, 400.

FORESTRY PLANTING.

In forest tree planting a hint is taken from these facts, and the trees are planted very close together—four or five feet apart each way, for instance. In a few years—six or eight, probably—the crowns of the trees meet and the ground is shaded. By far the most of the trees die, of course; the forester expects this in the first place. But they have done their work in keeping the moisture in the ground and giving off fallen leaves and twigs to form humus. Besides, trees so planted grow taller and straighter, and so make better timber.

THE STRUGGLE FINISHED.

Trees that grow the highest are called "dominant" trees. The majority of the surviving trees lying between these classes (good, thrifty trees, though not standing out above their neighbors), are known as "sub-dominant."

But at last growth in height stops, chiefly because the trees are no longer able to pump up a proper supply of water into their tops. But the tree still keeps on growing in diameter at a pretty fast rate for several years. Finally, even this growth in diameter falls off largely, though it continues—at a less rate, of course—to a very old age.

Trees often live to a very great age. But such very old trees, when cut down, are very often found to be more or less rotten at the butt. So it is good forestry to cut the tree down before it gets so very old, as in that way the wood can be much better utilized.

F. W. H. JACOMBE,
Forestry Branch, Ottawa.

The Grand Trunk Railway has just received fourteen new switching engines from Schenectady, N.Y.

PITTSBURG LOSS \$9,000,000

Disastrous Effect of the Worst Flood in Its History.

A despatch from Pittsburg, Pa., says: With the rapid receding of the waters of the Monongahela, Allegheny and Ohio Rivers which was taking place here on Friday night, conditions are fast assuming normal proportions, and the greatest and most destructive flood in the history of the city is at an end.

Ten square miles were inundated. The loss in actual dollars will probably never be known, but an estimate thus far in Allegheny County may be summarized in the following tables:—

Loss in output of steel mills	\$3,000,000
Loss in output of other industries	2,000,000
Loss in wages of employees	1,837,000
Estimated damage to industrial plant	2,500,000

Total \$9,337,000
Excitement was caused on Friday by several fires. One which swept the Mount Washington district had to be dynamited on account of a shortage of water in the mains. The loss from both fires will not exceed \$225,000.

OVER 100 MINERS KILLED

Sixty Bodies Recovered and Others Are Likely to Die.

A despatch from Forbach, Germany, says: An explosion of fire damp in the coal mine at Kleinrosseln, near here, on Friday night caused the death of 105 miners and the injury of 15 others. The explosion occurred in a small gallery, in which 80 miners were at work.

In addition to the 65 bodies recovered, 40 other miners are missing, and are undoubtedly dead under the fallen rocks. Of the 15 injured who were rescued only one is expected to recover. At the time of the explosion about 240 men were working in the Klein Rosseln pit, 450 yards below the surface. The disaster was first known when the survivors reached the surface. The manager of the mine and a party of rescuers immediately descended. The bodies are now lying in the corridors of the miners' hospital. Those who were suffocated by after-damp are easily recognizable, as they appear to be asleep. The bodies of those killed by the explosion are badly disfigured. The mine-owners are relieving the bereaved families amply.

ELEVEN KILLED IN VIRGINIA.

A despatch from Richmond, Virginia, says: Eleven men were killed, four badly injured and three are missing as the result of a fire damp explosion in the coal mine owned and operated by Bond and Bruce, at Tacoma, five miles east of Norion, in Wise County, at 8 o'clock Saturday. The miners had just entered the shaft for the day's work when the explosion occurred which cost the majority of them their lives.