Fresh Groceries

Are as essential to health as your regular bath.

We keep nothing but the purest, freshest and best groceries to be procured. We are daily opening something new and fresh and are therefore able to recommend our goods to you as first-class in every respect. It will be to your advantage to call and see our line of goods before purchasing elsewhere, always glad to have you call to examine and price our goods. Drop into the "Ideal Grocery," corner Kent and Gt. George Streets.

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OUR BREAD......

This subject may be stale but we can assure you our bread is not. It is mixed and made as carefully and scientifically as possible by thoroughly experienced and expert workmen.

It is not the kind that merely fills up the stomach, but it imparts strength to every part of the human frame.

Our Specialty

Duchesse Loaf 4c.

We also have plain bread at 6 cents and Vienna at 7 cents.

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Charters!!

I have several new schooners seeking produce charters from Island Ports to Nova Scotia, United States or West Indies.

DENNIS MURPHY.

Broker and Commission Merchant

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SECRECY OF THE BALLOT.

Letter From Hon. Senator Ferguson.

SIR,—I understand that some discussion has taken place in the daily papers, of this week regarding the secrecy of the ballot under the Dominion Franchise Act of 1898 and the Dominion Election Act of 1900. I have not seen the papers of the last two days,—therefore this letter is not intended as a reply to anything that has been written on the subject, but its aim is to place the question fairly before the public.

When the Laurier Government, in 1898, introduced their bill repealing the Dominion Franchise Act, they left Prince Edward Island without a voters' list, while the ballot system of voting was made to apply here as elsewhere. I was appalled at the danger which I saw would certainly arise from such an incongruous state of things. Hundreds of non-qualified voters could, in any Riding in the Province, walk into the polling booths, answer questions, take the oaths, receive the ballots and deposit them in the box. In this way, by the votes of unqualified persons in a closely contested election, the candidate having the majority of good votes might find himself at the foot of the poll! And there was no remedy. The ballot having been given to the unqualified voter and put in the box, it had to be counted, and could not be investigated afterwards.

On the second reading of the Bill in the Senate I pointed this out and appealed to the Minister of Justice to find a remedy for the danger certain to arise from the proposed legislation. When the Bill reached committee, I found that the Minister of Justice was not prepared with any amendment, although he had previously promised me privately that he would consider the question of providing a voters list for Prince Edward Island,—which would of course entirely remove the difficulty.

Finding that the Government would do nothing, after consultation with the Island Members and Senators who usually act with me, I proposed an amendment which practically constitutes the main section sixty-seven of the Election Act of 1900. This section provides for objecting to votes in Prince Edward Island on the ground of want of qualification and for placing a number on the back of the ballot given to such objected voter, which is to correspond with the number opposite the name on the poll book. This is the Ontario system, and I think also the English system, regarding *all* ballots; and it had been adopted in the previous election law of Canada regarding voters who were the subjects of undecided appeals, and is still applied to cases where a voter has been personated. As I stated distinctly at the time, I did not altogether like this numbering of the ballots, but it was forced on us by the incongruity of the Government's legislation. We had either to number the ballots of objected voters, so that they could be scrutinized later, or submit to the danger of having large numbers of votes of nonqualified persons finally and irrevocably accepted and counted,—and which might decide the election in favor of the candidate having the minority of good votes.

I understand that canvassers for the Minister of Marine and Fisheries allege that they can, by objecting to votes on the ground of want of qualification and the consequent numbering of the ballots, ascertain how the vote has been cast. This smacks of West Huron! I imagine they will find more difficulties in the operation of their plan than they anticipated. In the first place they will have to incur the odium of objecting to the votes of undoubtedly qualified electors. This is a game at which both sides can play. When the ballots come to be counted and a great many are numbered, it will take a pretty clever fellow to carry the number in his head so that by means of a momentary glance at a ballot he can connect the number on it with a number and name on the poll book. In Ontario where *all* the ballots are numbered, the Liberals claim that the ballot is not only secret but sacred.

Another difficulty which the Liberal agent will find in his way, if when attempting to discover by the number on a ballot how an elector has voted, is to be found in sub. sec. 8 of sec. 96 of the Election Law of 1900. The penalty for violating this section is $200, for which imprisonment may be substituted with or without hard labor.

I admit that the last named difficulty would not be in the way if Sir Louis Davies had succeeded in carrying into law an amendment which he inserted in committee of the House of Commons, to sub-section 5 of section 96. Here is that section as it passed the House of Commons:—

"No candidate, officer, clerk, agent or other person shall communicate at any time to any person, any information, as to the number on the back of the ballot paper given to any voter at a polling station or attempt to ascertain at the counting of votes the number on the back of any ballot paper; *but this provision shall not apply to ballots marked in accordance with sections 67 or 74 of this Act.*"

The words in italics were inserted in the Commons by Sir Louis Davies, but were struck out in the Senate at my instance. The Senate also made another amendment to the section. Here is the section as it finally passed Parliament:—

"No candidate, clerk, agent or other person shall communicate at any time, to any person, any information as to the number on the back of the ballot paper given to any voter at a polling station, *except to a court or judge lawfully requiring him so to do*, or attempt to acertain at the counting of votes the number on the back of any ballot paper."

The words in italics were inserted by the Senate. The object of Sir Louis Davies' amendment could be no other than to remove all obligation of secrecy regarding these numbered ballots. Since Sir Louis' amendment referred to section 67, I will quote the part of that section which refers to the numbering of ballots:—

"In the Province of Prince Edward Island, if any person desires to vote, whose right to vote is objected to on the ground of want of qualification, and if a candidate or any agent of a candidate or (in the absence of such agent) any elector acting in the interest of a candidate, so objects in the presence of the elector, the deputy returning officer, in addition to placing his initials on the back of the ballot paper, as provided by section 70, shall also place on the back thereof a number corresponding to that placed opposite the voter's name on the poll book; and such persons having taken, if required, the oaths prescribed by this Act and the Laws of the Province, and having complied with the requirements of the law shall be entitled to receive such ballot paper and to vote."

The scrutiny into the qualifications of these objected voters before a judge will not divulge for whom any vote has been cast, except where the voter is found to be unqualified,—in which case the ballot will have to be identified in order to strike the vote of such person from the count of the candidate who received it.

In closing, permit me to point out some general conclusions:

1. The numbering of the ballot was forced upon Parliament by the incongruity of the government's policy, in 1898, in making a non-registrative system with ballot voting. The government evidently are now of the opinion that the proviso is a good one, because they made it a part of it the Dominion Election Bill of 1900.

2. Thanks to the action of the Senate rejecting Sir Louis Davies' amendment to sub-section 5 of section 96 the secrecy of the ballot is maintained in regard to these numbered ballots,—as it is in regard to the ballots in Ontario and in England which are similarly numbered.

3. The canvassers who are frightening the railway vote by telling them that the secrecy of the ballot is gone, are unwittingly doing the work of the Conservatives, inasmuch as the opinion is becoming universal that Sir Louis Davies and his friends will not be in a position when the election is over to punish those who vote against him.

D. FERGUSON

Tulloch Avenue, Oct. 3rd 1900.

Easy to Take
Easy to Operate

Because purely vegetable—yet thorough, prompt, healthful, satisfactory—

Hood's Pills

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Queen Hotel: Jas S C Moore, Eldon; Mrs W W McDonald and child, Miss L J Muttar, Alberton; E Boswell, Victoria; R R Goulding and son, London, Ont; H C Rose, Harland, N B

Hotel Davies: Byron N Barns, Fred Russell, Jas K[illegible], G S Bedrick, F H Dobson, P [illegible]ganson, Montreal; H A Peters, Moncton; Samuel [illegible]we, Murray Harbor; M A Scaiff[illegible]; C W Burkh[illegible], Halifax; A J Rut[illegible], P B Wallace, E Yeigh, Toronto, M C Gillis, Pictou; Wm Brennan, Summerside.

Chamberlain's Message.

LONDON, Oct 3.—Mr Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies sent to the editor of the Birmingham Daily Mail the following message of congratulation, which was conspicuously displayed on the screen when the paper was announcing the results of the polling:—

"Patriotism before politics. May the union between the colonies and the Motherland, now cemented by their blood, be forever maintained."

For burns and scalds use Griffiths' Menthol Liniment. It takes out all pain instantly and produces that pleasant, cooling sensation. Always have a bottle handy.

Local and Other Items.

THE HALIFAX.—The steamer Halifax is due in Charlottetown to-night.

TO MEET THE BOYS.—It is suggested that one of the government steamers be sent to Pictou to meet the Island soldiers returning from South Africa. As the best is none too good for the "boys" we suggest the Acadia as the ship.

BY THE PLANT LINE.—Intending visitors to Boston are once more reminded that the special autumn rate by the steamer Halifax is now in force. Tickets are good for thirty days after date of issue, and the return rate is only $11.

PASSED ST. VINCENT.—The str Nyassa, from St John for Cape Town with hay and provisions for the British troops in South Africa, passed St Vincent on Tuesday. Mr. W. W. Moore, of Charlottetown, is a passenger by the Nyassa, having been sent to Africa by the Department of Agriculture.

RIPE RASPBERRIES.—The Summerside Farmer says: We were shown on Tuesday a pint of beautiful ripe raspberries, grown in the garden of Mr. H. J. Massey, Town Clerk of Summerside, and picked that morning, October 2nd, by Mrs Massey from four raspberry canes. Many of them measured 2½ inches in circumference.

THE SUSSEX RACES.—The races at Sussex on Tuesday were all well contested. In the 2.25 class, Brazilian won in three straight heats, Bilmont 2nd, Guy 3rd, Bijou 4th. Time 2.19¼, 2.20½, 2.19½. In the 2.35 class Synonym was 1st, Harry M. 2nd, Golden Prince 3rd, Deermont 4th. Harry A. got one heat, and was then distanced. Time 2.30¼, 2.32¼, 2.28½, 2.29¾.

A NEW SOCIETY.—The Scottish Self-Control Society is the latest along the line of reform. Three things that members promise are:

1. Not to drink intoxicants before noon, nor at any time except at a regular meal.
2. Not to "treat," i.e., not to offer or accept alcoholic drink except with a regular meal.
3. Not to give or accept drink in return for services rendered.

LOYAL CRUSADERS.—The Worthy Commander of Company "A" requests every member to be present on Monday evening, October 8th, at 6 30 o'clock for election of new officers and enlistment of new members. All boys and girls under 15 years of age are invited to join and take the pledge of total abstinance. Selections will be given on the Gramaphone. The Grand Scribe of the Sons of Temperance will be present.

CULHANE, CHACE & WESTON'S MINSTRELS.—Wm. H. Chace, a member of the firm of Culhane, Chace & Weston's Minstrels, seems intended by nature to assume the comical darkey. Bright, quick and witty, Mr. Chace is to be seen nightly on the tambourine end of his company and a guarantee for the entire destruction of melancholy will be found in his side-splitting stories, etc. He is an accomplished dancer, and as a character comedian unsurpassed. After having seen all the so-called great comedians of the day, see Billy Chace, the best of them all, with the Big City Show at the Opera House on October 11th, inst.

THE TROTTING RECORD.—The trotting record is apt to stand undisturbed for several years after it has been lowered, says the Bangor Commercial. Maud S's mile, in harness to a high wheel sulky, at 2.08¾ remained supreme for nine years, when Alix, benefiting by the improved rubber tired bicycle-wheeled racing vehicle, reduced it to 2.03¾. The record of Alix stood for six years, and now The Abbot clips it to 2.03¼. Several more years of careful breeding seem to be necessary in order to produce the two-minute trotter, for the remaining 3¼ seconds cannot be overcome at the artificial trotting gait without careful nursing of the stock in accordance with nature's laws. Another thing it seems safe to predict in view of the past: the horse that first fetches the two-minute mark will not be a stallion.

Spices for Pickling.

We keep a full line of spices always on hand and can confidently recommend them as being of superior quality and strength.

Allspice whole or powdered
Cloves " " "
Pepper " " "
Cinnamon " " "
Mustard " " "

Essence Vinegar—Extra strong Turmeric.

Mace &c, &c, &c.

Johnson & Johnson DRUGGISTS

Cor. Kent and Prince Streets

MEET ME AT THE ALWAYS BUSY STORE.

Jackets That Fit.

The first essential to a Jacket is Fit. It don't matter how fine the cloth may be, or how elegantly the garment is gotten up if it don't fit it's no good.

Our Jackets are all fitted on human forms before they leave the factory.

Every detail of finish and workmanship is closely scanned; and the goods come to us as perfect as it is possible for skill to make them.

Want a good fitting Jacket? Come right to us! $2.50 to $19.75 each.

STANLEY BROS

Ladies' Jackets,

Ladies' Capes,

Dress Goods,

Coat and Costume Cloths.

We show a fine new stock

T. J. Harris, LONDON HOUSE

Fall - Announcement 1900.

Our importations in Suitings, Overcoatings, Trouserings, etc, for fall and winter are now full and complete.

Cool mornings and evenings must remind you that you want a top-coat. We are showing a magnificent range in correct coatings for spring and fall. If you want a heavy winter overcoat now is the best time to buy. Our range in Scotch Suitings for fall and winter cannot be surpassed.

Furnishings - Goods.

Shirts, Collars, Ties, Underwear, Waterproof Coats, Umbrellas, Cap Sweaters, Hose, Handkerchiefs, etc.

GORDON & MCLELLAN

..... Men's Stylish Oufitters.

Fall Shopping at Weeks & Co's.

Wise providers for the house or personal use do not wait until the pinching frost makes everybody want everything all at once.

Morning and evening hints of cooler weather are sufficient to prompt them, to make early and easy choice from our immense stock of

DRESS GOODS, MANTLES & JACKETS, FURS. MILLINERY.

We carry a magnificent range of Dress Goods in all the latest weaves and colors. Prices from 15c & 25c to $2.50 a yard.

Furs—Our Furs this season are all new and of course the very latest patterns, in Ties, Collars, Jackets and Coats.

Mantles & Jackets—We have the pleasure of knowing that our Mantles & Jackets are the neatest fitting, most stylish and best value in the city.

Millinery—Last week was a busy one in this department; never before have we had such a rush.

We hear, on all sides, that it was the most magnificent display of Millinery ever shown in this city.

WEEKS & CO.

THE PEOPLE'S STORE.

LEADERS IN MILLINERY.