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Pages 1 to 16

## An Investigation Of Civic Affairs Is A Necessity

Rumor and Gossip Indicate Chaotic Conditions in Saint John.

Citizens and taxpayers of Saint John, reviewing what has transpired in connection with civic affairs must feel that a thorough investigation of the whole set-up is necessary. An enquiry that will bring out the truth and clear up the debris that is scattered about the city by gossip and rumor seems to be in order so that citizens may know the real facts.

At the present time heads of departments and employees of the city are being condemned or praised, justly or unjustly, and instead of a display of good citizenship we find discord and chaos. If there are officials or employees really doing their duty, while being unjustly branded as crooks, grafters, betrayers of trusts, steps should be taken to inform the citizens of the truth.

Rumor and gossip would indicate that this city is wallowing in a sea of crime where racketeers are protected and the common people have not a chance.

Such rumors as are circulating should be run down and if true, steps should be taken to wipe out the evils they indicate. On the other hand, if untrue, they should be given official denial. But some action should be taken so that the citizens will know the true state of affairs.

Investigations have been held on account of rumors and it would appear that a real enquiry is now in order to clear up conditions that are said to exist and which are claimed to be throttling the very life of the city. If we are going to have an investigation, let it be thorough and let it take in every branch of civic activity. Let us have it immediately.

## Improve Education

REFORM in educational matters in New Brunswick with the establishment of a new Department of Education under a directing head in the Government, would appear to be a step in the right direction. Premier Dysart intimated in the House last week that such a move was contemplated. In his remarks he said that he believed there would be a great value in having a man whose particular department was that of education, such a system would be more in keeping with the views and aspirations of the people and more in harmony with modern trends. There could be unification of all the educational services and from a directing head in the Government could flow all the benefits.

Moves for improving the educational system should have the endorsement of all the people.

# "CLEAR UP OR CLEAR OUT" WHICH WILL YOU CHOOSE?

Saint John Is at the Cross-Roads—The Citizens Must Make Their Decision Before It Is Too Late.

CONDITIONS in Saint John are far from satisfactory. According to views expressed by citizens generally. It is reluctantly admitted, in many quarters, that City Hall has failed to provide adequate leadership in these times of stress. Individual members of the Council have assumed authority which was never intended to be acquired by any one individual, for such powers were supposed to be vested in the Council as a body. Through quibbles over opinions on points of law and through interference on the part of those, who make themselves appear to be clothed with authority, crime and debauchery apparently have become rampant. Trustworthy citizens have been defamed and despotism is rearing its fearful head in this democratic City of Saint John.

If the citizens do not rouse themselves to action soon they will find themselves little more than slaves to a group of dictators who are puffed up by their own importance and whose selfish desires are carrying them far beyond the realm of what is just and right.

The rings that are exerting their unholy will over this fair city must be broken up. Alien influences must be eliminated and Saint John must be thoroughly cleared of all racketeers, both domestic and alien, who would exploit our young people and debauch those who are too weak to protect themselves. The citizens should no longer tolerate the state of intimidation which now prevails and which is aimed to suppress those who would move for reform. Citizens must be free to express their opinions both with the ballot and by speech.

There has been too much pussy-footing among the people in the past. There has been too much catering to the so-called big fellows, individually and in groups. The people have been given the divine right to think for themselves and they should be free to give the benefit of this thinking to their fellow citizens.

Conditions have come to such a pass in Saint John that only a few citizens have the nerve to come out in the open and express their candid opinion on those things which are working against the best interests of the people. There is an apparent fear of officials, who were placed in office by and are being paid by the citizens. Iniquitous practices are responsible for the strangling of progress and the prostitution of the citizenry.

Must our people continue to be afraid? Must they lie down before those they have placed in office? Must they submit to those who have clothed themselves in an authority to which they have no right and which is exerted to the detriment of the common people?

Why are houses of ill-repute allowed to flourish openly in Saint John? Why are gambling dens being operated in defiance of the law? Why are the common people menaced? Why have the good citizens of Saint John failed to exert their influence and join forces against the evils which they know exist?

If there is not leadership at City Hall it is time something was done to provide what is necessary. There must be progress and if it cannot come through the present set-up then there must be changes in the personnel and methods of government.

Dictatorship must not be allowed. People must have their freedom. Racketeers must be eliminated. Gangsters must go. Truth and righteousness must prevail. Real leaders must be placed at the head of affairs. Sympathy votes must be eliminated.

Clean up Saint John. Clean up the gambling. Clean up the sink holes.

The fair-minded citizens have the choice of two roads, they must either clear up the city or clear out of the city.

## THE O'BRIEN GOAT

(Kiwaniis Magazine)

It seems a pity that all the diplomats and dictators could not know about the O'Brien goat.

He was a sturdy fellow with a fighting heart and had butted the wind out of every goat on both sides of Darrah Run. He was the acknowledged cock of the walk.

The O'Brien had felled a tree opposite his place along Darrah Run. It crossed the Run at a place where the bank was high and the water tumbled over the rocks fifteen feet below. The O'Brien goat, of course, walked it easily when crossing the Run in his business of pursuing either Venus or Mars.

Tim Casey, who lived on the opposite side of the Run from The O'Brien, went to the county fair to sell a pig. Pigs were a drug on the market, so Casey swapped the pig with a Kerry County man for a blue goat. The blue goat had a heart of oak and a head of ivory. He was six pounds lighter than the O'Brien goat, but he crossed the foot log in search of war.

It took him three days to get over his headache, and then he went across the Run for more. And got it. Most people do who look for trouble. Every third day for a month, the blue goat crossed the Run for another fight and each time came home with his tail down.

Then came the day when the blue goat started over the Run for his regular battle, and right in the middle of the foot log he met the O'Brien goat coming across on some errand of his own. The goats advanced until they stood in the middle of the log facing each other. The O'Brien goat looked down at the fang-like rocks fifteen feet below. Without a moment's hesitation he lay down on the log and let the blue goat walk over him!

From that day forth, the two goats never fought. The blue goat felt that the incident satisfied his honor. The O'Brien goat knew that he could lick the Casey goat any time he wanted to.

It does seem unfortunate that all diplomats and dictators do not know the story of the wise O'Brien goat.

### GERMANY TO ATTEND

At the time of going to press, reports from Europe indicated that some agreement between the nations might be made and a conflict averted. Germany will be represented at the League of Nations' meeting in London.

## Gossip from Far and Near

WITH SO many rumors in the air these days in and about Saint John, one often wonders why people take so much interest in them. According to the dailies, rumors regarding the police force are to be investigated. The first thing we know we will be having investigations of the rumors concerning those who are said to be investigating rumors. But finally who is going to investigate the rumors concerning the rumors?

SO FAR ten persons are mentioned as candidates for the two positions in the Saint John City Council. Each person offering no doubt considers himself especially qualified to carry on the work of any civic department but we wonder how many are lured by the bait of \$3,000 per year. No doubt to many of the candidates this salary is a mere detail of the situation, and is in no way influencing them in offering themselves as candidates.

D. L. MacLAREN so far has the field to himself so far as candidates for the mayoralty are concerned. He has been promised support in all sections of the city and the prospects now are that he will not have opposition. So far it is surprising that so few rumors of an adverse nature have been spread concerning him. He might be considered an unique candidate in this regard.

THE MEMBERS of the Legislature of New Brunswick are united in a determination to make this Province a better place in which to live. The stand regarding the constitution has shown a spirit of unity that has not been experienced in this Province for years. Now let us get to work in developing the natural products and establishing industries based upon these products and prosperity will be here before anyone realizes it. A pull all together will right all our wrongs.

THE BURNING of the venerable plant in the Rothesay Road is a disaster so far as that industry is concerned. Some 60 men have been put out of employment. It is hoped that the owners of the plant will see their way clear to resuming operations as soon as possible. Such industries as this are needed in all parts of New Brunswick. There are all sorts of products that can be made from materials secured in this Province.

IN ANCIENT time Themistocles needing money for the defense of Greece against the Persians and suspecting that the prosperous Athenians were hiding their wealth, announced that "the shield with the head of Medusa was missing" and on pretext of searching for it, ransacked the homes of the Athenians and discovered much money which he applied to public use. In this day and generation when the various tax burdens are falling so heavily on some people and so lightly on others, such a man as Themistocles might prove useful in digging up the hidden wealth that is omitted from the tax returns.