

# BROADCASTER

The Maritimes' Feature Weekly

Vol. VI., No. 16.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1936

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## Uniform System Of Taxation Is One Of Our Needs

A Province-wide Method of Taxation Would Be Beneficial.

The competition among the cities, towns and municipalities of New Brunswick is becoming a serious problem for the Province. Under present conditions each unit has its own taxation system and those systems are being manipulated in such a manner that special inducements can be offered to take an industry or business from one community to another. While Saint John may be the chief sufferer in this respect at present, the other communities as they grow and are compelled to supply more services, will find themselves faced with the competition of the smaller communities. The chief competition is in the matter of taxation.

In order to build up the industrial life of the Province there should be a uniform taxation system throughout the Province. Thus protection would be given to the people of any community and industries would know that they would get the same kind of treatment in all communities.

When an industry or business comes into any community under special concession and does not pay the regular taxes as imposed upon the rank and file of the residents, those residents are compelled to pay for a part of the services given to the new industry.

Other Provinces have uniform taxation systems based upon provincial legislation and the whole economic life of the Province would be improved by a uniform taxation system. This matter should be given consideration by the Union of New Brunswick Municipalities.

## Whiffle Board Is Ruled As Gamble By Quebec Court

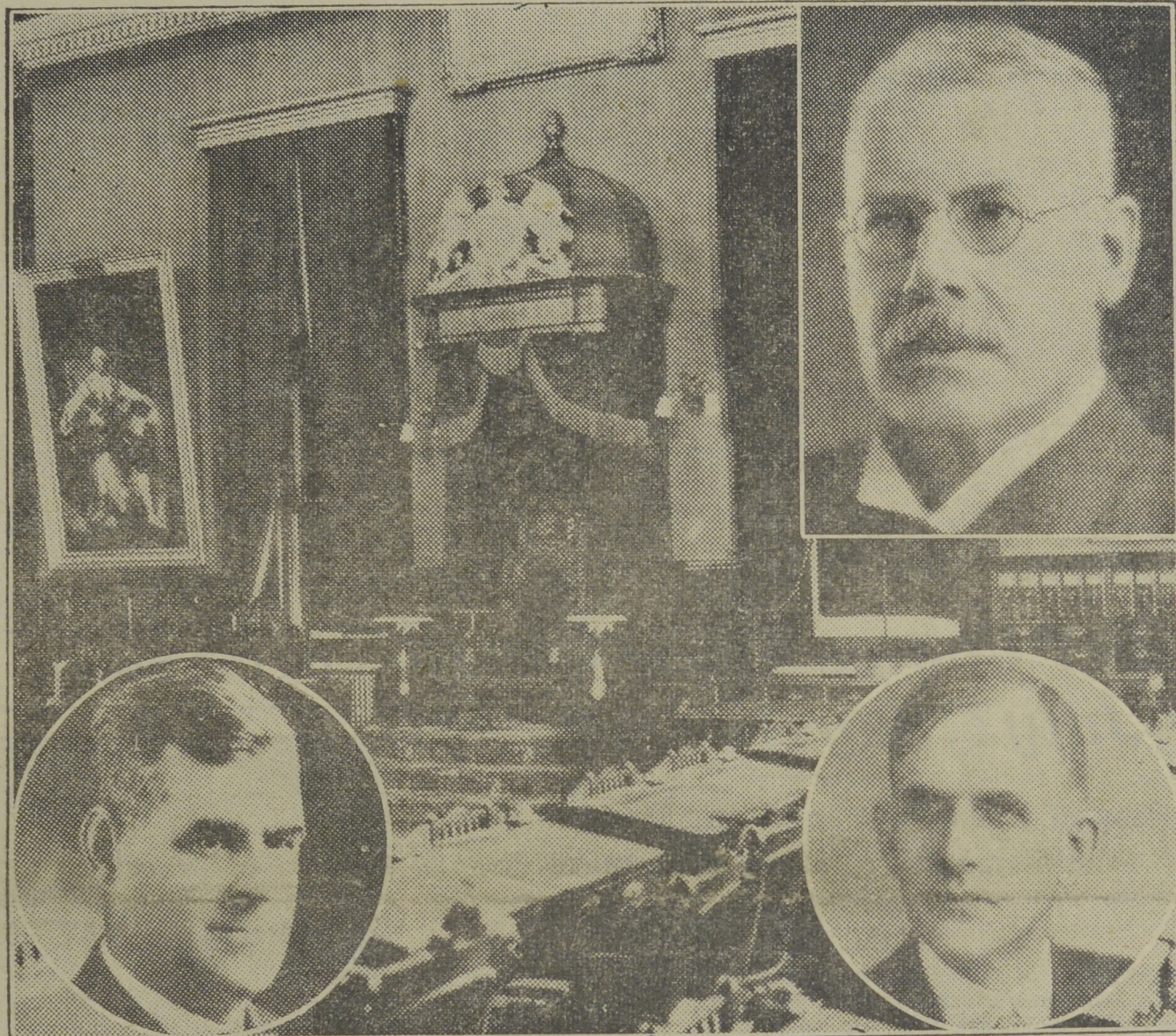
Saint John is quibbling over the legality of boards and machines on which persons may take a chance. It may be of interest to know that the Court of Appeal in Quebec has decided that the whiffle board is a game of chance. If Saint John authorities are in doubt about the machines or boards in operation here they might as well get a test case or two into court, and secure a decision one way or the other.

In Quebec the five judges in appeal decided the machine that sends little balls scurrying into holes to add up a point score and is known as a whiffle board is a game of chance within the meaning of the criminal code.

The appeal was on the decision of a magistrate in Sherbrooke, who had decided that the awarding of a prize for the highest score and also a booby prize, for play on the board, did not make it a game of chance.

The appeal court decided otherwise and declared the operator guilty and placed a fine on him with the option of one month in jail.

## NEW BRUNSWICK LEGISLATURE OPENS



The members of the New Brunswick Legislature gathered in the historic chamber at Fredericton on March 5th to attend the opening of the first session of the eleventh Legislature. Above is a picture of the interior of the Legislature, showing the Speaker's chair,

while at the top is COLONEL THE HONORABLE MURRAY MacLAREN, P.C., C.M.G., M.D., Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick. Below, left and right, are: HON. A. A. DYSART, K.C., Premier of the Province, and F. C. SQUIRES, leader of the Opposition.

## Nova Scotia Joins With New Brunswick In Fight For Rights

Provinces Must Hold Fast to the Imperial Connection.

New Brunswick was alone in its stand for the protection of the sovereign rights of the Provinces of the Dominion of Canada. But now it appears that Nova Scotia will stand shoulder to shoulder with New Brunswick in the fight against the perils of further subjection to the will of those interests which control governments in other parts of the Dominion.

The rights of the Maritime Provinces must be maintained and the designing interests in the Central Provinces must be headed off in their efforts to make all the Provinces subordinate to their will.

When the Fathers of Confederation agreed to the formation of the Confederation with New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario and Quebec as members, they saw the need of having control of the contract in the hands of the British Parliament. In that they saw the safeguard from tyrannical elective despotism and from designing influences that would usurp the rights of any one of the partners. In all cases, the Confederation Pact, provided protection from the minorities and that protection, they foresaw could only come from the British Parliament.

In viewing the future it is well

## Backs Arms Policy



SIR AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN, former British Foreign Secretary, stressed the necessity for a strong national defence policy during a recent address in England. He called for an aggressive Government policy that will reassure the British people against the dangers of war.

to review the past. The people of New Brunswick and those of the other Maritime Provinces cannot fail to see the work of the devastating hand of central Canada.

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## New Brunswick Is Firm In Stand On B.N.A. Act Changes

Hon. J. B. McNair Returns From Ottawa Conference.

Hon. J. B. McNair, K.C., Attorney-General of New Brunswick has returned to Fredericton from the meeting of the Dominion-Provincial committee in Ottawa. Mr. McNair said the committee was continuing its session but was dealing with matters which he considered to be outside the purview of work originally assigned to it. He said that New Brunswick's position with regard to the proposed changes in the B.N.A. Act was unchanged.

In previous conferences it was proposed to ask the British Parliament to transfer control of the British North America Act to Ottawa, but New Brunswick's representatives opposed this and asked that they be told what was contemplated, if such a move were sanctioned. It was also proposed to make changes in the Act but New Brunswick held out for full details of the proposed changes. It was learned that the proposals were somewhat indefinite, the chief objective being to bring control of the Act to Ottawa.

New Brunswick stands firm in defense of its sovereign rights as a British province and it is understood there will be opposition from this province to changes that would involve the severance of the Imperial connection, which is believed to be the safeguard of the weaker Provinces.

## Gossip from Far and Near

THE feeling is growing in Saint John that a change in the form of government is a necessity. The evidence of lack of harmony at city hall is pronounced. Individual efforts seems to be the chief obstacle to good government. Even in city government there must be team work as in a hockey team. Individual rushes may be spectacular but they seldom accomplish much. Even the different departments cannot be worked successfully as separate units. There must be co-operation and the present form of government does not give that. In fact, it seems to make co-operation impossible. If the Civic Improvement League has anything to offer in the way of improvement the public should be informed without delay so that they can offer suggestions and have some definite plan adopted at the earliest opportunity.

THE report of the valuator on the New Brunswick Power Co., Ltd., has been made public. The value of the concern is placed at \$3,250,000. The cost of getting this opinion of experts will cost the city more than \$10,000. Already \$7,500 has been paid to the concern making the valuation. What good this expenditure will do the city is hard to see. It means that the cost of the survey will be added to the taxes next year. Usually it is considered bad business to pay more than one gets but dipping into the future to this extent is the poorest type of business.

WHILE three Commissioners voted against the report on the Power Company being published at this time, the mayor evidently thought it should be made public at once. Evidently those commissioners who are facing an election in April, would have consideration of the report deferred and the daily press seems to be of a similar opinion. If consideration is left to the incoming council there is likely to be no action for some months yet.

IT LOOKS like an interesting civic election this year. Already there are seven candidates in the field for Commissioner. They are the present Commissioners Wilson and Walsh, J. A. Whitebone, K. D. Spear, Alick Taylor, J. Harold McLellan and Ralph Broderick. So far D. L. MacLaren is the only candidate offering for the post of Mayor. It is rumored that several other citizens will offer for office and there is a possibility that at least ten candidates will be seeking the two Commissioners' posts on the first Tuesday in April.

IT IS costing Great Britain about \$500,000 monthly to continue naval, military and air precautions in the Mediterranean, the government disclosed in reply to a question in the House of Commons. Previously it had been made known that the cost to date of the Mediterranean precautions was about \$7,000,000. The Cabinet has issued a white paper disclosing their program for rearmament and improving of the national defences.