

THE ST. JOHN EVENING TIMES

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IT IS OLD MAXWELL.

The provincial opposition in this city last evening selected as their candidate a gentleman whose name had been less frequently mentioned than those of some others, perhaps because it was thought unlikely that he would accept. But Ald. Maxwell is a strong candidate. He has been a political possibility in the conservative party for ten years or more, and his name has been mentioned in connection with both provincial and federal politics.

Mr. Maxwell has had over half a dozen years' experience in the city council, and as an alderman and the chairman of the safety board has had to deal with a number of matters of much importance to the city. In political campaigns he has also taken part, for he is a ready speaker. The organization he has had in the various wards in aldermanic elections, will no doubt be of some service in the coming campaign, though some who supported the alderman may not support the candidate for the legislature.

Now that both sides have named their candidates, it is clear that the contest will be a keen one. Experience teaches that forecasts of results of elections in St. John are seldom borne out by the actual result. This by-election held in the midst of the holiday season, is not likely to arouse any very great degree of enthusiasm on either side. The time is short, and the candidates cannot hope to make a thorough personal canvass of the city and county. Personally, the candidates are all acceptable men, and it is conceded on all sides that the campaign will not be, by any means one-sided.

THAT PORTFOLIO.

Of the vacant portfolio of surveyor-general the Woodstock Sentinel says:—

The contest may safely be said to lie between Carleton and St. John, with the honors easily in favor of the former. For a long time it has been supposed that George Robertson would accept a portfolio, but we are in a position to say that his chances are not very bright.

We do not think there is any doubt in the mind of any member of the executive regarding the fitness of Wendell P. Jones for the portfolio. In the recent federal election he demonstrated his marked ability as a successful campaigner. His strong points are well known. The people in the Upper St. John Valley feel that the long delayed recognition will now be given.

Regarding the same portfolio the Ilichibucto Review says:—

Mr. Barnes' friends are confident that his claims and the claims of Kent County to the position will not be overlooked. The only objection that has been made against his appointment is that he represents Kent, a north shore constituency, and that this section of the province is already well represented in the provincial cabinet. This objection should have no more weight than a similar objection would have had, a year ago, when four of the six cabinet offices were held by members who lived in and around St. John.

IN ONTARIO.

There have been but five premiers of Ontario since confederation. For thirty-seven years the province has been ruled by a liberal government. In view of the elections to take place on Jan. 25th, the following bit of history given by the Toronto News is of general interest:—

The coming general election is the eleventh since confederation, the others having taken place in the years 1867, 1871, 1875, 1879, 1883, 1886, 1890, 1894, 1898, 1902. The last general election was held on May 29, 1902, and there have been just two sessions of the present Legislature, that which began on March 10, 1903, and closed on June 27, and the session of this year which began on January 14, and closed on April 26. Mr. Ross, who appeals to the province for the second time as premier, is the fifth provincial prime minister. His predecessors have been, Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald, Hon. Edward Blake, Sir Oliver Mowat, Hon. A. S. Hardy.

The reconstructed government differs from the one which went to the province in 1902 in that E. J. Davis has resigned, and his place as minister of crown lands is taken by Hon. A. C. MacKay, while Mr. Stratton's retirement occasioned a vacancy in the provincial secretaryship, now filled by Hon. F. R. Latchford, the former commissioner of public works, whose place is now filled by the Hon. W. A. Charlton. Mr. Gibson remains in the ministry without portfolio, and Hon. F. E. A. Evan-turel is also a minister without portfolio.

A Kingston, Ont., despatch says:— "The municipally-owned waterworks closed the year with a surplus of over three thousand dollars. The city gets \$9,000 worth of water per year. It allows \$4,750 for taxes, and thus receives \$4,250 as a gift for backing the debentures."

During the past year the new buildings which have been erected in Brandon have cost over \$700,000. It is expected that a far larger number will be erected during the coming year.

The Times does not believe that the police force of this city is open to the charge of graft. Considering the area to be covered and smallness of their numbers the force are rather to be congratulated that their work is as well done as the citizens know it to be.

Gas in Winnipeg costs less than in St. John. The rate there is \$1.70, compared with \$1.85 in St. John. One would expect the price in Winnipeg to be higher than in this city, but such is not the case.

There is, as usual, considerable talk about having an election free from all suggestion of bribery or corruption. That would be a greater novelty than is found in the Christmas stores.

If the Street Railway were under municipal management and the service broke down as it does at present the council would be swept out of office at the first opportunity.—(Toronto News.)

During the past year over \$2,000,000 worth of new buildings have been erected at Calgary. That city claims to hold the world's record for improvements in any city of a similar size.

In Manitoba and the Territories there are now 918 elevators and 64 warehouses, with a total storage capacity of 41,186,000 bushels.

At Port Arthur there are now some 650 men at work in the C. P. R. freight sheds. Last year at this time there were only 250.

Dr. Smith is still in the hands of his friends. According to Mr. Eben Perkins, those friends have their hands pretty full.

It is estimated that the Canadian Northwest has yet over 13 million bushels of wheat to market from this year's crop.

It is stated that less than one million bushels of wheat are in storage in Port Arthur and Fort William.

DEFENDS APPENDIX.

English Physician Dissents from View That it Is Objectionable.

(From the Providence Journal.) It has sometimes appeared to the lay mind that surgeons take unnecessary pleasure in demonstrating that one or another portion of the human body is dispensable, if not a superfluous possession. Those who are conscious of such an impression will be glad to learn that so doughty a champion as Sir William Mackenzie who occupies a prominent position in the front rank of modern physicians, has entered the lists to combat the widespread belief that the vermiform appendix which in recent years has tormented the piece de resistance for many an eager surgeon, is an objectionable and dangerous member of the human machine. Less learned physicians than the Londoner have argued gravely to attentive patients that the appendix is simply a disease centre, a trap for irritating foreign substances, serving no good end, and to be disposed of at whatever expense of money, pain and even deadly peril. Sir William has been credited with speaking "where he knows" in saying that "some surgeons have freely admitted that when making an incision in a patient for some other disease they frequently remove the little organ as a precaution against appendicitis."

In support of his contention that such a course is improper Sir William expresses a conviction that the appendix, so far from being a useless and rebellious organ, has an important function in assisting digestion. "In an age of 'quick lunches' all assistance possible to that end is important. Moreover, the appendix is the chief habitat of a certain micro-organism which is most useful in attacking imperfectly assimilated nourishment, and if only as a medium for the cultivation of these bacteria has a useful mission to perform and should be retained. Because it can be successfully removed is clearly not an adequate reason for an operation for there are few organs which are absolutely essential to life, however necessary they may be to the pursuit of happiness. With evidence of extreme joy physicians have proclaimed the possibility of getting along without the stomach—that of their patient; the lesser intestine and the spleen have been successfully removed, and sections of the brain have been cut away in rare cases without any overable loss of vitality or mental power.

But delightful as these triumphs of surgery may be to the profession, there is some danger that the slashing customs of the time may, in the case of the human race, invalidate altogether the conservative and safe, if slow, methods of nature which, in the process known as evolution, eliminates in her own good time the unworthy and unnecessary. While a body lacking a stomach, appendix and other organs may be highly satisfactory to the pure scientist as illustrating the capabilities of the human mechanism and the degree of skill attained in use of the knife, it is not necessarily a more desirable or praiseworthy kind of body than one equipped with its full complement of organs all doing their allotted work conscientiously. The coming of the day of tabloid luncheons and expatriate dinners has often been predicted, but a luxury-loving people will hold it at arm's length as long as possible, and if other surgeons of brief attainments will join with Sir William in trying to prove that nature really knew a thing or two when she developed the body to its present high estate, they may rest assured of grateful remembrance by generations yet unborn.

Bessie—Fred says he wouldn't marry you if there wasn't another woman in the world. Kate—Of course he wouldn't. There would be no fun in his marrying anybody if there wasn't another woman to flirt with.

MRS. CHADWICK COMPARED TO MADAME HUMBERT.

Notorious American Bank Wrecker Has Much in Common With Woman Who Startled France—Neither Has Pretension to Physical Beauty.

(Mail and Empire.) In many respects the famous Humbert affair has been duplicated in the Chadwick case, which has now entered on its last phase. Prominent in each case is the personality of the chief actor: Neither of them is at all like the conventional adventuress. Did a novelist present such a character, people would ridicule the idea of her exerting the astonishing influence wielded by Mrs. Humbert and later on by Mrs. Chadwick. Neither of them has any pretensions to physical beauty. Those who have studied Mrs. Chadwick's face assert that she could never have been handsome. She is not cultured, nor highly educated, nor would one describe her as brilliant. More than once her actions have denoted an almost insane genius, but often they have been those of a thoroughly stupid woman. Thus far the parallel between the Humbert and the Chadwick is almost exact, giving the former credit for far greater mental ability. At a critical point there is a striking contrast, and one which makes the American adventures the more remarkable by comparison. The Humbert woman had half a dozen valuable accomplices. Mrs. Chadwick "played a lone hand."

Her own testimony on the subject being worthless, we may assume that Mrs. Chadwick's maiden name was Elizabeth Bigley, and that she was born at Appin, Ont., 42 years ago, as her sister says. Her parents were poor, and life on the farm held no attractions for Elizabeth. Her earliest attempt to make a name for herself was executed on a cheque, and was attended by some irregularity which landed her in a Police Court. On the plea of insanity she escaped imprisonment, and soon left the country to join her sister in Cleveland. There in 1882 she married Dr. W. S. Springsteen, who divorced her shortly. Next she appeared in Toledo, under the name of De Vere, and succeeded in fascinating several men, one of them being an express agent named Lamb, whom she lured in financial difficulties, before she herself, on a charge of forgery, was imprisoned for nine years. On her release she went to Cleveland, calling herself Mrs. Hoover, in affectionate memory of her last husband. She obtained employment as a traveler for a millinery establishment, and later on blossomed forth as a clairvoyant and masseuse. In the latter role she met Dr. L. E. Chadwick, a wealthy Cleveland physician, whom she so infatuated that he proposed marriage, and was accepted, the ceremony being performed at Pittsburgh.

It was in Cleveland that her sensational career as a financier began. At the outset we are puzzled to find a satisfactory motive for her colossal borrowings. Dr. Chadwick was a wealthy man and quite able to support his wife in luxury; but this was not good enough for Mrs. Chadwick. The tremendous sums she fraudulently obtained were put to no logical purpose; probably half of the huge total was given away. She bought a dozen rings from a Toronto jeweler, but gave them all away to former Canadian acquaintances. She spent several thousands of dollars in equipping her domestic servants with silk and fine linen, and sealskin saques. Her home in Cleveland was a huge brie-a-brac shop. Costly pictures, priceless rugs and bronzes, famous statues and other most expensive articles of virtu were scattered about with almost maniacal profusion. On her hands were thousands of dollars worth of gems. She lived in the most luxurious style. But to a rational approximation of

all this insane prodigality she might have legitimately attained through Dr. Chadwick's wealth. How it was that this woman, who remained at heart, ignorant and uncouth, should so desire works of art that she would commit crime to obtain them? That they afforded her any real satisfaction may be doubted. This is the supreme puzzle of the Chadwick case. Traced from his small and modest beginnings, Mrs. Chadwick's system of borrowings is easily understood. For any reasonable amount, she had good security—the known fortune of her husband. Her method was not new. She would borrow a thousand dollars, and when the note became due borrow two thousand from some one else, and retire the first note. When the second note expired she could go back to Borrower No. 1 for \$3,000, and probably get it on the strength of her promissory note. This principal could be worked safely for any sum up to \$10,000, but when the woman desired greater advances some better security than her note of hand was necessary. After a few years of this sort of financing, Mrs. Chadwick met C. T. Beckwith, president of the Citizens' National Bank of Oberlin, Ohio, a man whom she completely deceived. To Beckwith she gave promissory notes amounting to \$250,000, signed "Andrew Carnegie," the signatures being forgeries. She explained that she had sold property to Carnegie, but that it was "tied up" for the time being, and that it could not be realized on by either of them, but that Carnegie had given the notes so that she should not be pressed for money.

GOT ANOTHER BIG LOBSTER.

Machias, Dec. 15.—What is probably the largest lobster caught on the Maine coast this year was captured last Thursday at Straight Bay by Lorenzo Huckins. Mr. Huckins has a sweet vein and on going to tend to the traps, discovered a huge lobster in the pound and proceeded at once to fish him out, but not without some difficulty. The lobster was brought to the village and weighed at Pike's market tipping the scales at 30 1/2 pounds. A better idea may be gained from the following measurements: Total length over all 40 inches. Girth around body 20 inches. Width from claw to claw spread at right angles to body, 3 feet. The largest lobster up to the capture of this one, was taken last week, being 39 inches long and weighing 28 pounds. After being photographed yesterday was taken to Boston by Mr. Huckins.

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The following is clipped from the St. Thomas, North Dakota, Times:—(A personal letter from Rev. S. J. Arsenault to the editor of the Times, states that Bishop Shanley has appointed him pastor of the Roman Catholic church in St. Thomas, and that he expects to reach this city Friday morning. It is presumed that Father Arsenault will have charge of the Bathgate and Cavalier missions as formerly. The members of Father Arsenault's church here and the citizens of St. Thomas generally, will be delighted to learn that he is to become a resident of this city. Father Arsenault, who is a brother of Mr. A. E. Arsenault of this town, spent the last six months in Fargo, where he was undergoing treatment from a specialist for deafness. We are pleased to hear that he has sufficiently recovered his hearing to again take up parish work.—Journal.)

A Man is Only Half a Man When He is Worried and Depressed by a Cold or a Cough

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D. S. HOWARD

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