

THE ST. JOHN EVENING TIMES

ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 13, 1904.

The St. John Evening Times is published at 19 and 21 Canterbury street every evening, (Sunday excepted), by the St. John Times Printing & Publishing Co. Ltd. A company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act. A. M. BELDING, Editor.

CHANGE THE SYSTEM.

The proposition to extend the aldermanic term to two years does not meet the objection that has been made to the method of electing members of the city council, nor is it at all likely to alter the complexion of the council. If the city were divided into districts, each electing three members, and if one third of the members retired at the end of each year, it would probably produce better results. Merely to go on as before, with the difference that it would be impossible for the city to get rid of an objectionable board of aldermen for two years, does not meet the case. Two years, or three years, is not too long a term for a good man, but what is wanted is a system under which the very best men will, if it be possible, be available as candidates. It is no attack upon the personnel of the present council to say that the present system has not proved a satisfactory one in that respect. For years the city council has not been fully representative of the best business capacity of the citizens of St. John. Of late years there have been few changes in the membership of the council. There is a general feeling that a change would be of benefit, and to produce a radical change there must be a change in the system of representation. The proposal now made does not go far enough. It may suit the present members of the council, but will not be regarded by the citizens as a satisfactory measure. It is not worth while to take up the time of the legislature with discussion of a measure so ill-calculated to produce the results desired by the taxpayers.

ONTARIO POLITICS.

In committing Editor Carman of Belleville, on the charge of libel in the bogus ballot box case, the magistrate vigorously denounced the political corruption in Ontario. The evidence, he said, showed that two candidates for parliament, assisted by other persons, joined in a nefarious plot to steal a constituency. Proceeding, the magistrate further said: "I am constrained to say that evidence given in other courts established the fact that this is no solitary instance of electoral corruption. From the extreme west of Ontario to the east a continuous series of crimes against political honesty have been shown to have been committed."

"From the evidence of frauds and trickery at elections, which have been so frequent of late, I have reluctantly come to the conclusion that public honor in Canada has steadily declined. Such deterioration can only be stopped by a serious awakening of the public conscience, and I trust that the evidence that has been brought forward in this case may give such a shock to public opinion as to make the 'saving remnant' of honorable men in the province awake to the seriousness of the position. It seems to be that one of the most dangerous sophistries that can be urged in respect of crimes of this character is that there is a different standard of honesty and duty in public and private life. If the public conscience becomes seriously weakened it cannot fail to affect the standards of private honor."

A SAD CASE.

The Bangor News has made a startling discovery in Aroostook county. It has learned that great wealth and the determination to spend it, coupled with proximity to the New Brunswick border, is playing sad havoc with the morals of the good people in that county. The paths of the story must appeal to the hearts of the people of western New Brunswick with much force. Here it is:—

But up in Aroostook county things are said to be different. The farmers and merchants and millmen and lumbermen are making money so fast that they sit up late at night planning out ways to spend their surplus. Their enormous holdings, instead of being a comfort to them, are a constant care. Men who are naturally pure and good and straightforward become familiar with the vicious way, not because they are fond of vice, but for the reason that they must have some way of keeping their money in circulation, and from experience they have found that a path leading along the borders of wrong will enable them to get rid of cash faster than any other way they have tried. In the Boston Sunday Globe, for December 4 is a very graphic article, showing the pictures of the houses where liquor is sold in such proximity to the Aroostook line that active persons find no trouble in visiting them and buying the goods which are offered for sale. Naturally Aroostook county is virtuous and clean and sweet, but too much money has bred up a desire to spend some of the surplus, and as a result these houses are said to be patronized very freely. Many of the houses so report says, are in Maine, reaching just far enough across the line

into New Brunswick to hold a small bar-room, in which stuff which costs money and which fluff the intellect is sold to any person who has the price. Again, there are other houses which are in New Brunswick and are approached by tunnels from Maine, through which tunnels the wine when it is red and the whiskey when it is spirituous and the beer when it is foaming find their way and go to persons who do not like liquor, but who are compelled to buy something or become weighted down with wealth. It is said that the county attorney and the sheriff of Aroostook feel very badly about what is going on, but as the sales are effected outside of their jurisdiction, they can do nothing but wail and gnash their teeth in impotent rage.

It is our opinion that the Globe has performed a public service in showing up the temptations which environ the best county in Maine. Situated as it is on the line of disolute and abandoned New Brunswick, the county officials cannot help themselves, though they know their duties as well as any officers in Maine. It seems a pity that Aroostook could not be really and truly good, the way Penobscot county is for example. The residents of Aroostook are among the brightest and most wide awake in the whole world. They might do very much, if they could move away from temptations. Now, here in Penobscot county, having no sinful New Brunswick at our side to prompt us to do evil, we can be good all the time and think nothing about it. There have been good so long that many of us have forgotten how to be bad.

PARTYISM.

Discussing rational partyism the Toronto News makes these eminently appropriate remarks:—"Party is a thing not to be worshipped but to be used as long as it serves public ends; and when it ceases to do that, to be discarded and punished. It is not the master but the servant of the people, and to talk of 'all-giance' being due to it by its members is ridiculous. If a great cause is to be advocated its friends will naturally combine and this is a laudable thing. If there is no such cause, and the parties simply become rival organizations, seeking public support on the ground that they can give the people good administration. Such a rivalry might be honorable and even generous, and might produce good results for the country. But when, in the absence of great issues, it assumes the form of frenzied devotion to one side and hatred of the other, when the name of Grit or Tory, as the case may be, is pronounced in accents of anger and contempt, partyism becomes a superstition as degrading as the medieval belief in witchcraft."

KILLED HIMSELF.

Lynn Mass., Dec. 12.—The body of Albert A. Hatch, a member of the firm of Hatch & Fernald, building contractors, was taken from the sea near Red Rock, by the police this afternoon. Mr. Hatch disappeared from his office this morning. The medical examiner said the case was undoubtedly one of suicide.

JOHN CARR INJURED.

An accident occurred yesterday afternoon by which John Carr, a carpenter, who resides at 302 Brussels street, was badly injured. Carr was working in the Ogilvie building on Dock street, and was engaged in putting up the guides upon which the elevator runs and sat down upon the board which was across the open shaft. The board broke, unfortunately, and Carr was precipitated into the cellar, a distance of fourteen feet, where he alighted upon a pile of refuse lumber. The pelvic bone was injured, how badly Dr. Barry, the attending physician, does not know yet. After the accident the injured man was removed to his home in a cab, and last night was suffering considerable pain.

FRATERNAL VISIT.

Sussex, Dec. 12.—(Special)—The L. O. G. T., lodge of Petitoctac visited the Sussex lodge this evening. Some twenty-five members were present. The home lodge turned out in large numbers to receive them, after the opening of the lodge, and the regular business disposed of. An entertainment was given which was highly appreciated by all. J. D. O'Connell made a lengthy speech in behalf of the home lodge, and at 11 o'clock they sat down to luncheon, the visiting lodge left for home on the midnight train.

MARINE NOTES.

The Furness liner Evangeline sailed from London Sunday morning at 10 o'clock for St. John. The steamer Orinoco left Bermuda Saturday at 3 p. m. and is due here Wednesday. The bark Charles E. Lefurgey, of Charlottetown (P. E. I.), arrived at Buenos Ayres, on December 8, from Gulf port (Miss.). The steamer Ocamo, Capt. Buchanan, sailed from Halifax yesterday for Bermuda, West Indies and Demerara.

Are All Women Pretty?

Quite an unnecessary question because so many women have such poor complexions. We want to tell all women with pale sallow cheeks about Ferrozene, which quickly imparts fine color and gives the skin a clear, rich appearance. It's pure blood that makes fine complexions, so by producing lots of vitalizing blood, building up the debilitated system, increasing the circulation Ferrozene quickly brings the glow of health to faded cheeks. It's no trouble at all to beautify your looks—simply use Ferrozene. Try it. Price 50c. at druggists.

THEY LIKE THE SYSTEM

But the Aldermen Believe They Should be Elected For Two Years.

The city aldermen have decided that the present system of election is good enough. Only Ald. McGoldrick, at a meeting of the council yesterday, voted for the mayor's proposal for a change. The aldermen, however, supported Mayor White's proposition for a two years aldermanic term and, though all were not agreed, the meeting decided in favor of keeping the polls in civic elections open from 8 a. m. till 6 p. m. Legislation will be sought. The mayor was in the chair and Common Clerk Wardroper was present with Aldermen Hann, Lewis, Holder, Tilley, Daley, Carleton, Braman, McGoldrick, Frink, Maxwell, Macrae and Christie.

The mayor said the committee appointed at this last meeting to select three persons to constitute a commission on the assessment had prepared a report on the subject, but had not been able to secure the services of three gentlemen, but would report at a future meeting. The mayor then turned to the further consideration of the report of the committee on the inaugural address. The first point for decision had reference to the hours of polling and he had recommended the extension of the polling time to 6 p. m. He said that about 2,500 voters were added this year to the civic electoral lists, but owing to the hour of polling being from 8 a. m. until 4 p. m., many of these voters who were working men were distracted from inability to get to the polls until after their return home from work at 5 o'clock. If the hours were lengthened it would do away with the necessity of two booths in the larger wards, and men could exercise their franchise after returning from their work between 5 and 6 o'clock.

Ald. Maxwell said he would rather see extra polling stations than longer hours. It was frequently after 10 o'clock when the ballots were counted, and it meant a very long day. He did not think employers would object to men leaving to record their vote, and it made a serious difference to the officials and candidates.

Ald. McGoldrick thought the matter should go to a committee. It was a radical change to make, and should not be carried out unless asked for by the people. He moved the section lie on the table.

The mayor reminded the last speaker that the section had just passed through the hands of a committee.

Ald. Maxwell moved an amendment that the section be sent to the bills and by-laws committee, with power to extend the time until 5 o'clock.

The mayor pointed out that men working in outlying parts of the city could not get to the polls in time. As long as men were given a vote the law should be so arranged that they could vote. He thought the hours 9 to 6 would be better than 8 to 5.

Ald. Holder moved an amendment to the amendment that the section be adopted, and the hours of polling be from 8 a. m. till 6 p. m.

Ald. Macrae thought an extension to 6 o'clock would have certain advantages. He was also in favor of subdividing the polling places.

Ald. Christie was opposed to this subdivision.

Ald. Carleton spoke in favor of Ald. Holder's amendment, and on being put to the vote this was carried, and the decision is for polls open from 8 till 6 o'clock.

The section dealing with the extension of the term of office was next considered and also the question of reverting to the system of electing aldermen in wards or electoral districts instead of by the vote of all the citizens, as at present.

Ald. Maxwell moved the adoption of the committee's recommendation on this section, namely, that the aldermen's term of office should be extended for two years but that the mayor's suggestion to revise the electoral districts should be dropped.

Ald. McGoldrick was in favor of going back to the old system. He thought the present system was bad.

Ald. Frink asked if there was nothing vicious under the old system.

Ald. Lewis, while not willing to go back to the old system was opposed to the present one.

Mayor White gave his reasons for suggesting the change. It was opposed to the present system, it violated the principle of representation. The people should be acquainted with the qualifications of the man who represented them, and this was more important in civic than federal politics. Notwithstanding strictures that had been made, he believed St. John was as well governed as many other cities; he believed the personnel as good, and that the members of the council were honest and above suspicion and devoted more time to the city than the public paid for. The work was not always done rapidly, but it was perhaps the better for that. While this was true, the council should not be tempted to depart from its independence. It should be borne in mind if a good turn was done a man he forgot it within a few hours, but an injury was remembered to his dying day.

Ald. Macrae was averse to depriving the electorate of the right to vote for every man. Today an independent majority should rule and under the present system they had that right.

Ald. Maxwell agreed with Ald. Macrae.

Ald. Christie did not see any evils in the present system.

On the mayor putting Ald. McGoldrick's amendment, it was lost, no one but the proposer voting for it.

Ald. Maxwell's motion that the report of the committee on this section be adopted was then put and carried.

Ald. Brennan, Daley, Tilley, Holder, Maxwell, Lewis and Christie voting for it, and the mayor, Ald. Frink, Macrae, Carleton, McGoldrick and Hann against. This means that the mayor's suggestion to change the present system was voted down.

The council then adjourned.

LOWELL CHOSEN.

He is the Local Government Candidate For the Vacant Seat in St. John County.

At a meeting of the St. John County delegates to the local government nominating convention, held at Fairville last night, James Lowell of South Bay was unanimously chosen as candidate. The vacant seat was created by the resignation of Hon. A. T. Dunn.

The meeting was held in Temperance Hall, Dr. R. C. Riddick, M. P. P., of St. Martins, presided, and a large number of delegates were present. The addresses were all very brief and the entire proceedings took but little more than one hour. The Fairville and Pisarino delegates were J. W. Long, Wm. McKee, Dr. Macfarland, Wm. McKinnon, John Gillis, John Avery, Edward Long, Amador Anderson, Wm. Evans, John Donaldson, Thos. Conway, Wm. McKnight, Albert Splane, Substitutes for Pisarino, Capt. J. Hayes, Wm. Baxter, John Hooley, Alex. Donaldson.

St. Martins—Dr. Riddick, Robert Connolly, S. J. Shanklin, J. O'Connell, John C. Boyer.

Simonds—Gouin, Joseph Lee, A. F. Johnston, J. Donovan, John McGuire, Daniel Johnston, F. Adams, F. Rafferty.

Musquash—Patrick Corrigan, John Clarke.

Dr. Macfarland nominated Coun. Lowell. He believed that the councillor was widely and favorably known throughout the county. He had been an excellent representative at the council board and was a man on whom the community could depend.

The nomination was seconded by John Avery and Coun. Lee and carried without dissenting voice. The chairman and others, including the candidate, then addressed the meeting, and the convention was concluded about 9 o'clock.

OBITUARY.

Miss Mary U. Jacob.

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 13.—Miss Mary U. Jacob, one of the oldest and most esteemed residents of Fredericton, passed to her final rest at the residence of Mrs. Seymour, Church street. She had been suffering for some time from congestion of the lungs, and although her death was not wholly unexpected, it was learned by her many friends and the public generally, with deep regret.

Miss Jacob was born in England in the year 1821, and accompanied her father to this province. In 1828 the old college of New Brunswick became King's College, with a royal charter, and Rev. Edwin Jacob, D.D., fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford was appointed vice-president and acting head, and took up his residence on Oct. 19th, 1829. He became principal of the college in 1848, under a new act. Dr. Jacob had four sons and two daughters. It is believed that Elizabeth, the other daughter, is the only survivor of the family. Miss Mary Jacob has been a well known and familiar character in Fredericton for almost all her life.

With the exception of a few years, which she passed in Woodstock, she has lived here continuously since her arrival in this province. Two of her brothers, John, who was a physician, and Edwin, a barrister, practised in Woodstock. Miss Jacob living with them and keeping house for them, supplying her own needs by conducting a private school. On leaving Woodstock, she returned to Fredericton.

She was ordained deaconess by the late Bishop Medley and took up Mission work along the Nashwaak, Ludlow, Doaktown and Boiestown where until lately there were no regular ministrations of the church. She kept up a number of small Sunday schools and brought children to baptism, and helped to prepare older ones for confirmation, thus preparing the way for the program which she occasionally visited the mission.

Only a short time ago she gave \$800 out of her savings towards the erection of a parsonage in Ludlow, and it is an open secret now that \$1,000 was given by her to a parish in St. John for an object which strongly appealed to her sympathies.

She lost her life, once being lost in a wood, and afterwards being picked up on the side of the Canada Eastern railway, when the quick eyes of the conductor espied her lying in the path of a train.

A few weeks ago she contracted congestion of the lungs and went to hospital for treatment, she improved to some extent and was removed to her own apartments, where on Sunday afternoon about 8.30 o'clock she passed away. Dean Partridge administered the last rites of the church.

Mrs. Martha Dobson.

Mrs. Martha Dobson who for the past twenty-five years has been a resident of Port Greville, Cumberland County, N. S., died on Thursday, December 8th, at the residence of her son-in-law, Capt. Charles Hatfield. She was the last survivor but one of eight sons and daughters. Her father was James Jenks of West Brook. Previous to the death of her husband William Dobson, some twenty-five years ago, and for some years after, she lived on the Jenks homestead, where her father settled nearly a hundred years ago. Both she and her husband were teachers before their marriage, and Mr. Dobson, who was a man of unusual intellectual gifts, was a teacher for several years before he took the Jenks farm. Mrs. Dobson leaves three sons all in the western states. Hows was a mining prospector and operator before he settled down to farming in Arizona. James is a building contractor, and has been Mayor of Kiowa, Kansas. John is in business in Kansas. The daughters are Mrs. (Captain) Charles Hatfield of Port Greville,

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whose youngest son, A. S. Hatfield, resides in this city. The other is Mrs. Gove of West Gore, one of whose sons is a member of the Sun staff. The only surviving sister is Mrs. W. Wood of Amherst. Mrs. Dobson was past ninety years of age. She was a lady of strong intellectual force and decision of character. She was a member of the Baptist church, and was well known for her many deeds of kindness. The funeral took place at West Brook on Saturday last.

SCHOOL BOARD

Many Matters of Varying Importance Were Dealt With at Last Night's Meeting.

The regular monthly meeting of the St. John school board was held last evening. The members of the board who were present were A. I. Trueman (chairman,) Dr. H. S. Bridges, Mr. Nason, Mr. Coll, Mr. Lockhart, Mr. Russell, Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Keele.

A communication was read from Miss Jean Scott, asking for three months leave of absence during next term, on the grounds that she needed a rest. Her resignation was accepted.

The King's Daughters handed in a communication, asking for the opening of a night school for those who were not able to attend day school. The King's Daughters had received forty applications from young people to attend the night school. Some of the applicants had been through the eighth grade.

Messrs. Coll, Maxwell and Russell were appointed a committee to act in the matter.

The resignation of Mr. Montgomery principal of the Albert school, was read. In his resignation he thanked the board for the kind treatment he had received from them during the 43 years he had taught in the city of St. John.

It was thought that on the occasion of the retirement of a man who had served so long and faithfully in the profession as Mr. Montgomery had, that the board should in some way express their appreciation of his work. A committee was appointed, consisting of the superintendent and Messrs Keele and Lockhart to draw up a suitable address to be presented to Mr. Montgomery. It was also agreed that Mr. Montgomery's salary should be paid for the time he had lost this term.

Dr. Bridges referred to the fact that during all the years that Mr. Montgomery had taught in this city he had never been brought before the school board to be reprimanded.

An application from Mr. Nelson for the position which Mr. Montgomery had vacated was read and referred to the teachers committee.

Miss Helen Adams, teacher in the Protestant Orphan Asylum, sent in a communication asking for leave of absence in order to take a course of manual training at Fredericton.

An application from Mr. Lord for the Albert school was read and referred to the teachers' committee.

An application for leave of absence until spring was read from Miss Bessie Stephenson. The leave of absence was granted.

Applications by Miss Agnes G. Waring and Miss Hester L. Edgecomb for positions on the teaching staff were read and placed on the applicant list.

An application for increase of salary from W. J. Tait, janitor in the High School, was read and referred to the committee appointed for such purposes.

An application from Michael Kelley, a blind man, for the position of teacher in the night school was read and referred to the night school committee.

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