

THE ST. JOHN EVENING TIMES

ST. JOHN, N. B., NOVEMBER 16, 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.

TO THE PUBLIC.

Since the first issue appeared on Oct. 1st, the Times has not made any special effort to secure subscribers by a canvas of the city. This paper has enjoyed a large circulation from the very first, not only in the city but in those portions of the province easily reached by a St. John evening paper. The publishers believe that they are fulfilling their pledge to the public to produce a bright newspaper, containing all the important news of the day. Mechanical difficulties are being gradually overcome, and today's issue is a fair illustration of a good newspaper. The appearance of the Times will, however, be greatly improved in a short time. Orders have been placed for new head-type and advertising type, and when these are received there will be a marked improvement.

The aim of the publishers is to continue along the line of advancement, and produce a paper that will please the reading public.

Those who have not become regular subscribers will be given an opportunity to do so, and it is expected that within the next few weeks the circulation of the Times will be greatly enlarged.

To give the news, and discuss public questions fairly and without prejudice is the programme of the Times. It has gained many friends, who can do it a great favor without injustice to themselves by commenting it to others, and by giving the members of its writing staff and its business representatives a kindly reception.

A CHANGE NEEDED.

The Times referred some time ago to the protest made by St. John importers against the complicated and vexatious invoice forms, which lead to much delay in the receipt of goods. Reference was made on another occasion to a protest made in Manchester, England, along the same line.

Another illustration of the difficulty experienced was given to the Times today. A St. John merchant who buys a line of goods in the United States has also been receiving goods from time to time on consignment from the same firm. The first consignment sent since the new invoice came in did not contain all the affidavits required, and although the importer has to pay duty on such goods the same as if they were bought outright, there was considerable difficulty in getting delivery of this lot. Today the St. John merchant received this letter from the American firm:

"We have decided not to send any more goods on consignment, the trouble we will have to go to, the new bills we would have to make out and have printed on the back and the cost for what we would have to get out of it would not be worth the printing."

The new regulations provide for three different sets of invoices, and shippers abroad are greatly confused besides being put to some extra expense. It would seem that this matter is worth reconsideration by the customs authorities.

INSURANCE IN HALIFAX.

The question of fire insurance rates is exciting a lot of discussion in Halifax. At a meeting of the fire commissioners the other night, it was declared that the city was "being taken by the throat," by the board of underwriters, and the recorder went so far as to suggest that the city get a bill through the legislature to do its own insurance, on lines similar to those adopted in Glasgow. If all the premiums were paid into the city and a sinking fund of \$2000 established, all the insurance could be taken over, he said, and any and all losses could be covered.

One alderman said that the chemical engines saved thousands of dollars worth of property every year. The chairman said that considering the population of Halifax the city is better equipped with fire fighting apparatus than any city in the dominion, and two members said that from information they had received Halifax was much better equipped than St. John.

It was estimated that to cover the cost of additions demanded by the underwriters, it would be necessary to add \$34,000 to the \$29,000 which the department now costs. The owner of a water boat offered to keep steam up for \$4,000 per year, and an offer was made of a boat suitable for fire purposes, but now in England, for \$4,500. No action was taken on these offers, and it was decided to hold a joint conference with the com-

mittee from the board of trade and the board of fire underwriters.

PORT ARTHUR.

Slowly but surely the Japanese besiegers are closing in on Port Arthur. A despatch of Nov. 2nd, received in London only yesterday, stated that the Japanese had tunneled the hills to within 100 yards of the parapets of the main forts, and were preparing for what it was believed would be the final assault. Their siege and naval guns in the forts already occupied by them were tearing holes in the walls of the Russian forts and sweeping the harbor. Two Russian warships were said to have been sunk. By a desperate assault on Oct. 30th, the Japanese gained and held the moats of some of the principal forts on the eastern fortified ridge. The Russian general, Stoessel, is reported to be confined in hospital, quite severely wounded, but with iron resolution retaining his command and urging his troops to die at their posts. His example is doubtless needed, since the ardor of his troops is said to have been dampened by continuous work and lack of supplies.

The siege of Port Arthur will go down to history as one of the most memorable that has occurred in recent wars.

HALIFAX IN 1906.

The Halifax exhibition this year had a deficit of \$8,230. It was decided at a meeting of the exhibition commission last evening to urge upon the government at Ottawa the claims of Halifax for the Dominion exhibition of 1906.

With a solid delegation of liberal members from Nova Scotia, the commissioners are of opinion that their representations will be favorably considered by the government.

The Recorder, however, points out that if the city is to have the Dominion exhibition, both grounds and buildings must be greatly improved, and that work must be begun without delay.

There does not seem to be any good reason why Halifax should not have a Dominion exhibition, if it can make the necessary preparations. Doubtless the attendance would not be as large as at a fair in a more central location, as at Toronto or Montreal, but there would nevertheless be a very large number of visitors from the west, and that is one thing the maritime provinces greatly desire. The west knows all too little about the resources and charms of the east.

COMPARISON OF PRICES.

Bradstreet's publishes an interesting comparison of the prices of staple products in the United States, which shows that they are firm at close to the highest range for over a decade past. It is pointed out that only the pressure of actual demand could sustain the markets for food products, metals, leather, and all the textiles except cotton and some lines of cotton goods.

Comparing the prices of Oct. 1st with those of Nov. 1st, it is shown that thirty-three articles advanced during October, fifty-five remained steady, and only nineteen declined.

Comparing the prices of Nov. 1st with those of Nov. 1st, 1903, it is shown that thirty-two articles are higher, twenty-four are unchanged and fifty-one are lower. The articles which are higher are wheat, corn, rye, flour, sheep, mutton, milk, lard, butter, codfish, coffee, sugar, molasses, peanuts, hides, Australian wool, hemp, jute, cotton sheetings, southern pig iron, copper, tin, linseed oil, cotton-seed oil, olive oil, rosin, brick, bicarb. soda, nitric acid, hops, rubber and tobacco.

P. E. ISLAND'S ISOLATION.

Though winter has not yet begun, the problem of winter navigation has already presented itself to the people of Prince Edward Island. The steamer Northumberland was unable to cross the Straits on Monday, because of the gale, the heavy sea and a thick snowstorm. For this reason the Times received by last night's mail the Charlottetown papers of Saturday, Monday and yesterday.

The Guardian observes that were the Capes route equipped as that journal hopes to see it equipped the short trip across might be made both ways without difficulty in such weather as that of Monday. "It is hard," says the Guardian, "to concentrate public opinion here on any great project for any considerable length of time, but the time must come when the shorter and safer route between the island and the mainland will again become a very lively topic."

Halifax will have by the first of March, a Home for Aged Men. The chief credit for the establishment of the Home will be due to Mr. C. C. Blackadar, of the Acadian Recorder. He has contributed liberally, and

FIVE EPOCH-MAKING SIEGES ECLIPSED BY PORT ARTHUR.

Locality	War	Duration	Survivors	Losses
*Sebastopol—Crimean	...	334 days	345,000	210,000
Kars—Russo-Turkish	...	165 days	23,000	22,000
Vicksburg—Civil	65 days	77,000	103,000
*Richmond—Civil	1 year	34,000	181,000
Metz—Franco-Prussian	..	72 days	270,000	70,000
Paris—Franco-Prussian	..	133 days	560,000	40,000
Plevna—Russo-Turkish	..	142 days	80,000	70,000
Port Arthur	8 months	120,000	140,000

*In these sieges loss of life was greater than at Port Arthur.

NEW LIBRARY IS NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

There Was no Ceremony When it Commenced Operations Today --- Premier Tweedie Among the Visitors --- A Handsome and Up-to-date Building.

The opening of the New Free Public Library, in Hazen avenue took place at 10 o'clock, this morning when the handsome building was thrown open to the public.

The proceedings were of an informal character, no ceremony taking place. This was deemed advisable in order to expedite matters as much as possible, and although the children's room is not yet in order the patrons of the institution will find the reading room and circulating library ready for their reception.

When the doors were thrown open this morning those present included Hon. C. H. Lablouis, Mayor White, deputy mayor Hamm, R. O'Brien, W. M. Jarvis, and S. S. Hall, and during the day Premier Tweedie and Hon. F. J. Sweeney also paid the building a visit.

General expressions of delight were heard from all the visitors as they passed from one room to another, and the opinion was that the library building is perfectly suited for its purpose.

On passing through the main doors one finds himself in a circular waiting room well lighted from the dome above. The librarian's desk, etc., faces the entrance and behind it is the stock room, where are kept the books for general circulation.

On the right of the waiting room is the general reading rooms provided with tables and chairs sufficient to accommodate a considerable number of readers and supplied with a largely increased list of papers. To the left of the main entrance are the children's room and reference library.

On the upper floor are several spacious rooms, which have not, as yet, been set aside for any particular purpose. In the basement is an up-to-date heating apparatus.

Taken on the whole the structure is a great credit to the city of St. John.

The library will be open continuously from 10 a. m. to 9.30 p. m., but books will not be given out during the last half hour, which is for the benefit of readers only.

The present commissioners of the library are Richard O'Brien (chairman), Mrs. W. H. Tuck, Mrs. E. A. Smith, Mrs. James F. Robertson, Mrs. R. J. Ritchie, Messrs. W. M. Jarvis, James Christie, M. D., Thos. Millidge and J. B. M. Baxter.

The new building is in the classic style and in appearance it has met with general approval. G. Ernest Fairweather was the architect, James Myles was the contractor, Ald. Robt. Maxwell having the sub-contract for the mason work, which was the principal part. G. E. Blake put in the heating apparatus, and James Hunter did the greater part of the electric lighting work.

thrown himself into the work of organization in a whole-hearted manner. It is no easy task to enlist public sympathy to the extent necessary to establish such an institution on a sound financial basis, and Mr. Blackadar therefore deserves the more credit for his philanthropic efforts.

The New Glasgow Chronicle states that it is informed on good authority that a general election for members of the Nova Scotia legislature will not be held before another session of that body. Instead, the existing vacancies will be filled. Steps to that effect have already been taken.

The new agricultural college at Truro promises to be a most valuable addition to the educational institutions of Nova Scotia.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS.
Organization of St. John Council Was Completed Last Night.

Last evening in the C. M. B. A. hall on Union street, the third degree ceremonies of the Knights of Columbus were exemplified under the direction of S. J. Nevin, D. D. of the 16th Massachusetts district, assisted by Capt. John A. McKenna, Wm. E. Malone and Thomas H. Welsh of Winthrop Council, John E. Farrell, Richard D. Barry and Frank H. Farrell of Revere Council.

The officers of St. John council who were installed last evening are as follows:—
W. J. Mahony, grand knight.
Dr. T. H. Lunney, deputy grand knight.
John F. Gleeson, financial secretary.
D. J. Doherty, treasurer.
George W. McInerney, chancellor.
Harry O'Neill, recorder.
Harry O. McInerney, lecturer.
Edmund S. Ritchie, advocate.
Geo. Lundey, Warden.
John M. Elmore, inside guard.
Frank Curran, outside guard.
J. J. McGuffigan, W. E. Scully and John Kelly, board of trustees.

The insurance rates of this order are higher than other in the States, but it has been placed on a basis as firm as possible. Over \$30,000 has been spent in engaging efficient actuaries, and its members feel that for security no order can equal it.

The order is of a benevolent, insurance and social nature. It was founded in Connecticut in 1852, and its membership now numbers about a million.

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W. TREMAINE GARD,
Goldsmith and Jeweler.

persistent search has failed to show more than \$250.

The attempt to have the old man declared of unsound mind failed because of the testimony of neighbors, who swore that he was not crazy, but just a little "queer." The farmer is still receiving his royalties and hiding the money, nobody knows where.

HE FELL TO HIS DEATH.

James Clark Killed on Barkentine Shawmut at the Ballast Wharf.

A fatality occurred last night on the barkentine Shawmut, lying at the Ballast wharf. Jas. Clark, the steward, while returning on board, slipped, and fell between the vessel and the wharf. He was almost instantly killed.

About 10.30 o'clock, the mate, Chas. Hanson, was awakened by a hail from the wharf, and Clark asked him to place the ladder so that he could come aboard. The mate did so, and the steward started to descend, but when about half way down he pitched forward toward the deck. He struck heavily against the fender and fell between the vessel and the wharf. Hanson aroused the boy who was the only other person on board and together they managed to lift him on to the deck. His injuries were seen to be serious and Hanson at once went for help. He met John Nolan, Daniel and Gregory McDiarmid and Jas. Price. He returned with them to the wharf and they set to work to resuscitate the man. A few minutes work convinced them that he was past help, his skull having been fractured, and Coroner Berryman was notified. After viewing the remains Dr. Berryman had the body laid out in one of the bunks until this morning.

The steward hails from Boston, and had been on the Shawmut only about a fortnight. Captain Reicker of this city is master of the vessel, and John E. Moore is agent.

Capt. Reicker, when seen, said that Clark's home was in Dorchester, Mass., and he had a wife and two grown up children. Clark had told him that his wife was formerly Miss Driscoll, a near relative of the family of M. J. Driscoll, Chipman Hill.

ACID CAUSED HIS DEATH.
Well Known Sea Captain Committed Suicide in New York Yesterday.

New York, Nov. 15.—Capt. A. T. Rouse, Royal Navy Reserve of Great Britain, suicided by drinking carbolic acid at his lodgings, West Sixteenth street. In his room were found letters signed "Your loving sister Annie," dated Carleton, N. B., and also envelopes marked, "Return to 19 King street, West St. John, N. B."

The sister referred to is Mrs. (Dr.) Hazlewood, of Carleton. Capt. Rouse was a son of the late Geo. T. Rouse, formerly a barrister of this city. He, for many years, captained vessels and accumulated a considerable fortune. Mrs. Hazlewood was much shocked on receiving the news. She knew no reason why he should have committed the rash act. Capt. Rouse was 50 years old, and has three brothers living. He leaves one daughter, Mrs. Dunlop, of Ottawa.

SHOCKS OF EARTHQUAKE.

Mexico City, Nov. 16.—Earthquake shocks are reported from several points in the state of Jalisco. At Autlan, the walls of several buildings were cracked. At Mansanillo, the shock lasted 10 seconds. No damage however was done. The volcano Colima is an active and further seismic disturbances are feared.

Doctor—I think I'll have to call in some other physician for consultation.
Patient—Go ahead, get as many accomplices as you wish.—Town Topics.

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