

THE ST. JOHN EVENING TIMES

ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 2, 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.

THE POST OFFICE.

The Globe last evening published a three line item stating that George P. Beverly had been arrested for assaulting Postmaster Hanington in his office. This was all the readers of the Globe found in that paper on the subject of the quarrel in the post office. The Telegraph in the morning had told of the previous day's trouble, and of Mr. Beverly's resignation, and his threat of proceedings against the postmaster, but the Globe said not a word about that side of the case. The news of Mr. Beverly's arrest, however, reached the Globe office in remarkably quick time, and was thought to be good enough to print. The fact that Mr. Beverly had laid a formal charge against the postmaster on the ground of assault was known to the Globe, as well as to the other evening papers. They announced it; the Globe did not. They did not announce the arrest of Mr. Beverly, because it occurred just as they were going to press, and they received the news too late. The Globe, with a whole day to get at facts which were common street talk, published only the three line item about the arrest of Mr. Beverly.

THE LEAGUE MEETINGS.

Last night's discussion on public ownership at the Fabian League meeting, was interesting and useful as a statement of general principles and a relation of what has been done in this city with regard to certain franchises. No doubt it is merely preliminary to a more exhaustive consideration of the whole subject, in which much more information touching the whole question will be given. The Times yesterday was under a misapprehension, through having been misinformed. This journal was given to understand that civic taxation was to be discussed last evening, but it appears that Aid. Maxwell will open up a discussion on that question at the next meeting of the League. It is a question of more immediate importance than public ownership, and will no doubt be discussed by many others besides members of the city council.

It may be well to point out to the League that the city council has not brought about any reforms in the matter of civic taxation. In addition, therefore, to those of the members of the council, who have done practically nothing, it would be well to get the views of persons who have strong opinions on the subject of tax reform, and who desire to see a change made with as little delay as possible.

PROFITABLE PUBLICITY.

The best kind of publicity for western Canada is given to the country by such persons as the Englishmen, interviewed by the Times today. They have lived in the west, and are going home to the old country to spend Christmas. They are coming back to Canada. While at home they will tell their friends of the great opportunities this country offers to the energetic young man, and their words will carry weight. No amount of lecturing or literature or pictorial advertising could carry conviction with as much force as the story of the experience of actual settlers told by themselves to people who know them. These young men will come back, and will induce others to come with or after them. They will be a link between the old land and the new, and a source of strength to the empire. Canadians wish for them a Happy Christmas, and a safe return to the golden west.

THE CZAR AND REFORM.

An interesting letter from St. Petersburg asserts that not only is the czar in sympathy with the general scheme of reform proposed by the members of the Zemstvos, but that he has sent their memorial to the imperial council with his personal approval of most of its demands. The letter asserts that the czar has overcome the influence of the holy synod and other antagonists of reform, and is determined to alter the present system of government in Russia. Referring to the Zemstvos memorial and the czar's action, the letter says:—

At the present moment this all-important history-making document has been handed over by the emperor to members of the imperial council, and may be altered according to suggestions made by that august body, but there are points which the emperor has already decided on. These are as follows:—

First, that there shall in future be perfect freedom of the press.
Second, that perfect freedom of conscience shall be allowed. This means a great deal, especially to the Hebrews, as it permits them to hold property in districts hitherto restricted.
Third, that people shall have a right to vote in the legislature of the country (which means representative houses).
Fourth, that for the impartial rendering of justice judges shall be im-

movable, as in England (hitherto on the slightest pretext they have been removed by the chief of the zemstvos.)

Upon one point, however, the emperor does not agree with the resolutions of the commission. His majesty will not, under any circumstances, sanction the control of the budget by the people.

The imperial council has been directed to work out the project with as little delay as possible.

When this has been done the highly interesting question will arise as to when the Imperial ukase will be issued making law of the newly-given reforms. It might come in the event of a great Russian defeat in order to buoy up the spirits of the people and rouse them to renewed enthusiasm. It might be given as a crowning act upon the day of rejoicing and as a climax to the grand day when the war is over and a treaty of peace shall have been signed. Both possibilities are already talked of by those who are behind the scenes of politics in this country.

This correspondent speaks with an air of confidence which is somewhat impressive, and even asserts that the czar was the real initiator of the reform movement. If the statements made are even partially true it augurs well for the cause of reform. Against a combination of czar and common people, the bureaucracy would be compelled to yield reforms.

Great interest is being manifested in the opening of the first session of the new parliament. An Ottawa despatch says:—

"There will be an unusually large attendance at the opening of parliament next month, unless all signs fail. Not only will it be the first session of a new parliament, but it will be the first state appearance of the new governor-general, both of which circumstances lend additional interest to the proceedings. Already members-elect have written the gentleman usher of the black rod to reserve places for their wives and daughters on the floor of the senate chamber, and it is just possible that after all these demands have been met there will be no places available for others who have been accustomed in the past to be favored with invitations to 'the floor.'"

Archdeacon Williams of Stratford, who has been elected Bishop of Huron, is a comparatively young man. He was born in Wales in 1859. He graduated from Oxford University, taking the degree of M. A. In 1885 he was ordained a deacon, and the following year was made a priest. In 1887 he came to Canada as professor of theology at Huron College. Later he was for three years special preacher at St. Paul's Cathedral. In 1892 he was appointed rector of Stratford, where he has since resided. Last year he was created an archdeacon.

If the people of Russia secure freedom of the press, other reforms will not be long delayed. But it was only last week the minister of the interior thought it necessary to suspend one publication and confiscate a whole issue of another.

Affairs at the post office appear to have reached a stage where the question of authority and discipline might properly be determined.

THE HOBOS.

(Special by Megaphone from City Hall, Dec. 1.)

Ald. Christie is determined that there shall be no reckless waste of water this winter. He remembers that last winter the water supply was very short in the north end of the city, and he will not stand for any such extravagant waste as would be involved in giving hobs a bath. The Salvation Army have a shelter for cattle and such indigent gentry as infest the city in winter. The army wants to take these men in when they are hungry and dirty and penniless, give them a bath, fumigate them, make them comfortable for the night, and make them do some work to pay for it. This does not appeal to Ald. Christie. He would prefer to see them going about hungry, and dirty, begging, stealing, frightening households, and doing this winter as they did last winter. The water supply must not be diverted to any such purpose as washing the hide of a hobo.

No money will be granted to help the army in its sanitary campaign. The question has been sent over for one month. It would be impossible to determine in any shorter time what effect water and soap and disinfectants would have on a cattleman. Moreover, it is necessary to have hungry hobs going about, in order to keep the police busy. Besides, it may be necessary to spend the \$200 to pay for another blunder in connection with the Sand Point berths or the new ferry steamers. If you take away from the aldermen the luxury of making costly blunders and making the people pay for it, they won't have any Christmas.

Edith—You seem to be very anxious to make yourself agreeable to Mr. Short. Why not give your attention to Mr. Long? Evidently, he is much struck by your looks.

Evadne—That's because he is a married man, at least, I suppose he is. Married men are always very free in their attentions. Perhaps it is because variety attracts, or possibly it is because they can make love without committing themselves.

NO HOLDUPS IN CANADA;
A LAW ABIDING COUNTRY

General Superintendent of the C. P. R. Denies Sensational Stories in New York Press—Canada, Unlike the States Holds No Such Rascals.

Montreal, Dec. 2.—(Special)—The sensational despatch from St. Paul, which appeared in New York papers, regarding the alleged holding up of passenger trains in the west, consequent upon Canadian railway companies refusing to be blackmailed, was shown to a prominent official of the Canadian Pacific here, who pronounced it absolutely foundationless. No blackmailing demands—upon, nor threats to any official of the company have been made, nor have there been any attempts to wreck trains, and the whole story is characterized as a transparent fake so far as the company is concerned.

The despatch to which the above refers is as follows:—

St. Paul, Minn., Nov. 23.—In spite of extraordinary precautions to prevent the fulfillment of threats made by a band of desperate criminals, the Despatch announces that the Canadian Northern roads have been unable to entirely suppress the band. Within three weeks eighteen attempts to wreck through passenger trains at widely separated points have been made, and only by the exercise of stringent precautions, coupled with good luck, has at least one terrible wreck been avoided.

The railroads refuse to make public any of the details of the attempts to wreck trains. F. W. Johansson, superintendent of a St. Paul detective agency, returned on Sunday from a

REFUSED
THEIR AID.

Treasury Board will Not Make Grant to Salvation Army Shelter.

At a meeting of the treasury board yesterday Ald. Christie protested against Carleton storekeepers retailing ferry tickets in their stores. The board of works will take up the matter.

A Salvation Army deputation asked a grant for the army's shelter for cattle and others but on Ald. Christie's initiative the matter was laid over for a month.

Ald. Robinson was in the chair, the common clerk and Ald. Christie, Holder, Tilley, Bullock, Maxwell, Macrae, Frink and Daley, Recorder Skinner and Chamberlain Sandall were present.

Staff captain Turpin, on behalf of the Salvation Army, explained in reference to the operations of the Metropolitan and Cattleman's Shelter in October and had found the accommodation of great benefit to the men. During November 430 men had been through their hands, sixty-six had done some work by splitting wood, etc., to earn their bed and food in the morning, 109 came with orders and 259 had paid for the accommodation. In connection with the shelter they had a labor bureau, and places had been found for thirty-seven men of fifteen applications. An expense of \$1,500 had been incurred. Each man had a separate bed and good bedding, thirty being down stairs and forty up. The place was open for inspection at any time.

The matter was discussed at length by the different members of the board.

Ald. Christie moved the matter lie over for further investigation for one month.

Ald. Bullock moved in amendment that a grant of \$200 be made.

The amendment was defeated and the original motion carried.

CATHOLICS WORK
FOR TEMPERANCE.

A New Society Founded in Toronto With a Prohibition Platform—The Treating System.

(Toronto News.)

Following the example of activity set by other temperance people since the Liberal Convention, the Catholic Temperance and Debating Union of Toronto was formed at a meeting of representative Catholic gentlemen at St. Peter's Hall on Sunday last.

The proposed platform of the Society, which will receive the consideration of the members at the next general meeting, to be held in St. Peter's Hall on December 7, is as follows: (1) To abstain from all intoxicating drink; (2) not to frequent saloons, bar-rooms, or similar drinking places; (3) neither to treat nor to accept a treat, in saloons, hotels, or similar drinking places; (4) to say a prayer every day for the cause of temperance.

A circular letter is being sent out to Catholics by the men who inaugurated the movement, and the following is an extract therefrom: "The Catholics of the city for some time past have felt that an organization of this kind was badly needed, not only for the cause of temperance, but also for the benefit to be derived from a general literary society of this kind among the Catholics of the city. The movement deserves the earnest consideration of every member of the church, and all are requested to attend the next meeting."

Glidden—How did you wife take it when you told her her bread wasn't half baked?

Fittipats—She sought to square herself by roasting me.

Bickers—Are you at all short sighted?

Western—Only when a chap comes along who is short of funds.

WON'T TAKE
ROSS' PLAN.

Ontario Alliance Declares He Has Previously Violated Temperance Promises.

The Ontario Alliance, according to the Main and Empire, will issue a manifesto censuring the action of the recent liberal convention on the temperance question. The Mail and Empire says:

"A meeting of the sub-committee of the Alliance Executive appointed to draw up this manifesto was held in the Confederation Life Building yesterday afternoon, but after a long discussion they did not succeed in drafting the manifesto."

"It is probable that besides expressing disapproval of the inadequacy of the temperance planks of the Liberal platform, as adopted by the convention, the manifesto will advise temperance people to vote only for candidates pledged to support a strong temperance or prohibition measures in the Legislature. And in the event of neither candidate so pledging himself, an effort will be made to run independent prohibition candidates. The committee entrusted with the drawing up of the manifesto is composed of Rev. Dr. S. D. Chown, (chairman), Rev. Dr. Carman, Rev. Dr. Goodspeed, G. F. Marier, ex-M. P. P. Alexander Mills, Rev. Dr. Bates and J. W. McCarthy."

Rev. Dr. Chown, in discussing the question, declared that the Ross and places had been severely censured for its total disregard of the pledges given to the temperance people of Ontario. Although the convention as a whole seemed to be in favor of passing the clause for a general local option vote on Jan. 1, 1906, they were stamped into defeating it by the addresses of Cabinet Ministers and Liberal members of the Legislature, who were put up by the Government to speak against it, and who pleaded that if it were passed some members and Cabinet Ministers would undoubtedly be defeated. The clauses that were passed, he regarded as being purely academic, and of little effect.

J. A. Austin, a member of the Alliance Executive, declared that the convention had opened the eyes of the temperance people. Henceforth they would certainly give no united support to a party that has so forfeited all claims to their support. Now that they had nothing to expect from the Liberal Government, he declared they would look elsewhere for the legislation they demanded.

"Similar expressions of opinion were given by Mr. George Spence, one of the vice-presidents of the alliance; Rev. Dr. McKay ex-president of the Dominion Alliance; Mr. J. S. Robertson, president of the Gospel Temperance League, and other prominent temperance leaders interviewed."

A GOOD HOUSE.

York Theatre had the average Thursday's business last night and every one seemed to enjoy the several acts presented. The distinct hit of the evening was made by Mr. and Mrs. Lucier, who created no end of merriment with a Rustic Romeo. Crowley and Foley, are rapid workers, and kept their hearers in a continuous laugh. Prof. Walberti and his beautiful horse are doing their share toward drawing houses, and present a very good act. The act of Nichols and Croix, is an interesting one. Bonette Bros. perform many startling feats in mid air. Ma June sings and Bailey & Barry talk and sing, in an interesting way.

TO TIMES READERS.

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