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THE NEWSPAPER.

In a sermon yesterday, Rev. A. M. Walker, in the Unitarian church, spoke of the newspaper as a bible. He contrasted the good modern newspaper with the Bible, rather to the advantage of the former as a publication for religious and ethical study, the ground of his argument being that the former mirrors modern life and its problems while the latter deals with ancient history.

It is needless to remark that this view will be controverted, but aside from any contrast with any other publication, ancient or modern, the newspaper, as a record of the life of the people, is a source of knowledge, of inspiration, of suggestion, and of generally profitable study that no individual who gives any serious thought to the problems of life can ignore. It is equally true as a matter of fact that more people read the newspapers than the Bible. There is, of course, the more reason that the newspapers should tell the truth as it is.

GAMEY AND MACKAY.

Mr. R. R. Gamey is a picturesque figure in the Ontario provincial campaign. At the liberal convention last week Hon. Mr. Mackay, one of the new members of the Ross government, made some remarks about the man from Manitoulin. Mr. Gamey turned up at the conservative convention the next day, and is thus reported by the Toronto Globe:—

"He wanted to tell the audience and the reporters of the newspapers, The Globe and the News particularly, that Mr. Mackay saw it yesterday, in the Liberal convention, to make a violent, bitter attack on him. 'I will visit this to Mr. Mackay,' he continued. 'We sat together on the floor of the Legislature of this province, for two sessions, and he never dared to make these insinuations against me when I was present to defend myself. This afternoon I took the earliest opportunity of trying to engage Massey Hall. I will ask Mr. Mackay to meet me face to face on the platform of Massey Hall (applause)—and I will ask him if he will be man enough to defend there the charges he has made against me. (Renewed applause.) I tell him tonight that I will make and prefer personal charges against Mr. Mackay on that platform, and I hope he is man enough to go there and meet me, and I hope that his past life has been clean enough to defend the charges I will make against him. (Renewed applause.) I am not wanting to be Commissioner of Crown Lands. Mr. Mackay lied when he said I was slurred for that position by the Conservative party. He started out in his administration as Commissioner with a lie in his mouth.' (Applause.)"

Evidently the campaign in Ontario will not be devoid of exciting discussions.

POLITICS AND PROHIBITION.

The following is the temperance platform adopted by the provincial liberal convention in Ontario:—

The right to have the question of the abolition of the bar or of the shop license, or of putting the traffic under government control, submitted to a vote of the municipal electors on the initiative of a petition signed by 25 per cent. of the electors.

No new licenses in New Ontario for all time to come. No new license to be granted anywhere except on a petition signed by 50 per cent. of the residents in the polling subdivision within which it is proposed to locate it. Forfeiture of license for second offence.

One clause in the report as it was presented to the convention by the committee provided for a compulsory vote in all the municipalities on local option in January, 1906; but this clause was rejected by the convention. It was opposed by the two new members just taken into the cabinet, Hon. Messrs. Mackay and Graham, and as Premier Ross did not support it he apparently approved of their view. When the report, amended as above, had been adopted, Mr. Ross spoke, and declared that they had "a temperance plank that would electrify the province." The Montreal Witness, however, has a despatch from Toronto which says:—

Interviews with Ald. J. J. Graham, J. S. Robertson, president of the Canadian Temperance Society, Alex. Mills, and the Rev. J. A. Rankin, all leading liberals, indicate a liberal temperance bolt in the coming Ontario elections. A big prohibition convention is to be called here at an early date.

The Toronto Telegram calls the platform "Prohibition with a string." The Toronto correspondent of the Montreal Witness, which is a strong advocate of prohibition, says of the discussion in the convention:—

The final vote showed that nine-tenths of the delegates were favorable to throwing down the gauntlet to the liquor traffic, but the appeals of two of the new ministers, the Hon. A. G. Mackay and the Hon. George P. Graham, not to go too fast, caused the vital clause of the temperance report to be dropped. The effect was magical upon the anti-prohibitionists, who had been manifesting the greatest discomfiture. That element immediately became the most vociferous in cheering for the emasculated report. Prominent temperance delegates who had been outspoken in their warnings to the convention, looked exceedingly grave. While they

recognize that the proposed amendments to the local option and license laws are of some comparative value, the pivotal issue was such a clause as would have divorced the liquor element from the party, and commanded the general enthusiastic support of the temperance electors. The final rejection of this clause, namely, of a compulsory provincial vote on no license, without any previous petition or action by the municipal councils, was a severe disappointment to the representative temperance delegates.

The Montreal Witness, commenting editorially on the platform, says it is "unquestionably a substantial advance on what exists", and argues that the proposal to issue no new licenses should give the government the support of the existing liquor interests. At the same time obstacles to local option are removed.

If, however, the prohibitionists get little comfort from the liberal platform they get less from that of the conservatives. At the great conservative convention held in Toronto on Thursday, a resolution was adopted practically endorsing the platform laid down in the legislature by Mr. Whitney in 1902, as follows:—

We cannot have prohibition in a province, therefore it is idle to discuss that remedy. I believe the remedy lies rather in using the powers that we possess, namely, wholesome restriction; a decrease in the number of licenses; removing those charged with the administration of the law from political and party influences, and honestly enforcing the law.

Therefore I am prepared to support and to introduce and pass, should the opportunity offer, legislation to:

- (1) Decrease the number of licenses where necessary. (2) Maintain intact and allow no relaxation of the restrictions. (3) Remove the commissioners and inspectors from political and party influences; and (4) Enforce the license law honestly, and with the whole power of the Government.

From the attitude of the two conventions it may be fairly assumed that the prohibitionists will divide on party lines when the elections are called on. The proposed prohibition convention will hardly decide to put up candidates in opposition to both parties.

AS TO THE I. C. R.

The Montreal Herald returned on Friday to the discussion of the future of the Intercolonial. The Herald insists that the operation of the line should be divorced from political influence. This is not very different from the view set forth by Mr. R. L. Borden. The Herald sees no way in which it may be done, short of a commission or a leasing company. The discussion grows interesting, since it may foreshadow some change in connection with the conduct of the government railway. The Herald on Friday said:—

Several of the conservative papers in the maritime provinces affect to see in the Herald's suggestion that the operation of the I. C. R. should be placed in the hands of a commission or of a leasing company, the foreshadowing of a scheme to turn the road over to some favored company. The real point at issue, the possibility of government operation being at the one time efficient and economical, is completely ignored. Of course, before a remedy can be decided on, there must be argument that one is needed. The almost continuous succession of deficits under all administrations, which have resulted from government operation of the road, should be the best evidence that an evil exists. The Frederickton Gleaner essays to escape the logical conclusion by saying that it was never expected that the Intercolonial would be a paying property. Under the circumstances that is equivalent to arguing that we must, if necessary, throw money away in order to avoid so dire a thing as a revenue-producing road. Of course, so intelligent a journal as The Gleaner does not mean to say that, but it should not overlook the fact that its implied defence of conditions that now exist and always have existed in the operation of the road is capable of such an interpretation.

It is not necessary to enquire into the merits of the argument that the road was not built as a profit-maker before coming to the conclusion that "no justification exists for conducting it in any other than an up-to-date business manner. To argue that freight rates should not be raised to a point where they would begin to pay a dividend on the capital invested is not an answer to the proposition that business principles should be applied to the hiring and discharging of employees, the relations of subordinates to their superiors, the purchase of stores and the treatment by the road of its customers and of other railways. The officials of the Intercolonial are for the most part, we believe, thoroughly efficient railway men, but they are hampered and encumbered by considerations that never interfere with the work of their fellows on other roads. This interference seems inseparable from government operation. To put an end to it would be the plain duty of any business men endowed with the necessary power and could not, with any show of reason, be construed into an attack upon what our maritime province friends call the "People's Railway." Which of the Conservative journals that are hinting at some terrible fate that is to befall the road will gain say the proposition that sound business principles should be applied to its operation? Which of them will say that such application would be an injury to the road or to the prov-

inces or in any way a breach of the understanding on which the road was built? Were they to take the contrary view, they would simply be arguing that the politicians, of both camps, have vested interest in the exploitation of the I. C. R., and that these interests are superior to those of the public. Of course, they say and think nothing of the kind. And if they cannot deny the desirability of putting the road's management away from politics, and bringing it under business principles, what radical and effective remedy have they to propose, short of an independent, non-partisan commission or the leasing of the road to an operating company?

The North Sea convention does not make any provision for the punishment of the guilty in the trawler outrage, and Britain pays half the cost of the arbitration. Russia should be highly pleased with so agreeable an arrangement. Her fleet will not be so lucky when it gets into Japanese waters. Meanwhile Russian warships get steam up with British coal. The protest of Japanese statesmen is not entirely unreasonable.

Premier Katsura of Japan says the Japanese are ready to sacrifice their last dollar and their last man before they will yield to Russia. He anticipates a long war, and declares that the domestic conditions of Japan are highly satisfactory. A war budget of \$388,000,000 will, he says, be passed by the Diet without difficulty.

A leading Russian statesman says the outcome of the war with Japan will determine the extent of the changes in the internal policy of Russia. He looks for very little change as a result of the Zemstvo convention.

Premier Parent of Quebec has only five conservative opponents, but it is said he has enough political enemies on his own side of the house to give him lots of trouble, and perhaps cause his resignation of the premiership.

It appears that Mr. Byron Lott, who thought the bogus ballot boxes were too small, has now discovered that the whole country is too small for him to bustle in, and has lit out for larger fields of enterprise.

The various civic boards meet this week. These meetings and that of the council next week should be of more than usual interest.

QUEBEC'S GREAT COLLEGE.

Professor Robertson in an interview stated that he could say very little as yet regarding Sir William Macdonald's plans for the establishment of an agricultural college at St. Anne's. Speaking generally, there would be three departments, viz:— (1) A department of research, to increase the knowledge available for the improvement of rural life in Canada along such lines, for example, as bacteriology of the soil. (2) A department of instruction, to teach the young in agricultural matters, and impart to them any new knowledge that is gained. (3) A department of farms for the application of knowledge and methods in economical ways for profit-making. The new institution will put the finishing touches upon the educational movement with which Sir William Macdonald has been identified for the past five years.

A WEIGHTY SQUASH.

(From the St. Louis Republic.) What is said to be the greatest squash ever grown is on exhibition in Canada's section of the Palace of Agriculture. It weighs 403 pounds, measures three feet in height, five and one-half in length and four feet in width. The squash was grown by William Warnock of Godrich, Ontario. Mr. Warnock is a market gardener and fruit grower. He makes a specialty of growing fancy squashes, and in former years has raised some that weighed more than three hundred pounds. He declares that this "is the largest that was ever produced in any country. It is of the variety known as the 'Mammoth.' No one has been found who claims to have seen a larger product of the vine. After the World's Fair a guessing contest as to the number of seeds the squash contains may be started.

BALLADE OF THE PIPE.

A tramp lay dreaming in the hay: His soul was filled with deep delight, From hungry paths he rounded away. Where everything was gay and bright. In richest clothes he was bedight. With gold and silver round about. Then he awakened in a fright— When things get good the pipe goes out. A candidate is named some day Who thinks he is a lucky wight, He lets his rosy fancy play. And dreams that all will come out right. He sees himself a man of might: Then all is put to sudden rout. The voters put his aims to flight— When things get good the pipe goes out. The airship man is in the fray: His hopes are high, he fears no blight. He sees his airship, like a fay, Soar on and on about eight. It floats aloft, just like a kite, When suddenly he hears a shout: He jumps and is awakened quite— When things get good the pipe goes out. Oh, dope, the price doth invite, To everything but sudden doubt. Some hateful things put out the light, When things get good the pipe goes out. Chicago Chronicle.

TO TIMES READERS.

IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY A REGULAR SUBSCRIBER TO THE EVENING TIMES, LOOK OVER THE PAGES OF THIS ISSUE AND CONSIDER IF SUCH A VISITOR DELIVERED DAILY AT YOUR HOUSE FOR 25 CENTS PER MONTH IS NOT WELL WORTH RECEIVING. IF SO, SUBSCRIBE TODAY.

Russia must have a big sinking fund. "Wavy?" "I see she has been buying three or four new warships."

SCOTCHMEN AT CHURCH.

St. Andrew's Society held Its Annual Church Parade Yesterday Afternoon.

The annual church service of St. Andrew's society, was held yesterday afternoon in Centenary Methodist church. The members met at their headquarters in the Odd Fellow's hall, and headed by Pipers Homer and Alexander Cruikshank, marched to the church. Chas. W. Bell was the senior marshal of the parade, and Major Gordon, the junior marshal.

The retiring president of the society, Thos. A. Rankine, walked at the head of the procession with C. E. Macmichael, president of St. George's society, and the following officers: James P. Robertson, first vice-president; B. R. Macaulay, president-elect; Andrew Malcolm, John White, Thomas White, Gordon Leavitt and Dr. P. R. Inches. The society was received by Rev. Geo. M. Campbell, the chaplain, and officers and members were formally played by the pipers to seats. The playing of the organist, Miss Alice Hea, was also much appreciated. Her selections were Ye Banks and Braes of Bonnie Doon, and Scotland Yet.

Mr. M. Campbell, chose for his text, John I, 41-42. After referring to what was recorded about St. Andrew in the gospels, Mr. Campbell said his theme would be the brotherhood of man and its obligations. The world's greatest prophet of brotherhood was Jesus Christ. From the day His cross was uplifted, to this hour, His sublime doctrine has been gaining ground. Andrew stands as the beautiful realization of the Christian ideal of brotherhood. His first act, after his apprehension of the Messiah for himself was to find his brother, and bring him to Jesus. He could not enjoy the blessings alone. As he began, so he continued seeking to bring all his own people into blessed fellowship. In later years he is found conducting certain Greeks to the Son of Man—his brotherhood of nation, of family, of pride, and of bigotry. He knew the Messiah could save into the uttermost, and therefore although a Jew, he gladly welcomed, not the Jewish man, nor Gentle man, nor man rich, nor man poor, but "man" into the fellowship of Jesus Christ. This was the ideal of St. Andrew, the keynote of his life.

It is the distinctive function of St. Andrew's Society to strengthen and multiply the bonds of brotherhood. It is not organized merely to furnish scope for legitimate social enjoyments and nor yet to glorify Scotchmen and their descendants. Scotia's sons have made record for themselves in the homeland and elsewhere, by their dauntless prowess, in defensive and aggressive war, by the success they have achieved by the development of commerce, of peaceful industrial arts, of literature, of science and theology. They have stood for truth, for sterling integrity, for freedom, for universal education and progress with a force and determination which other nations have not failed to acknowledge. It is as true today as when Burns wrote it, that "Scotia is Revered Abroad." Her mission is one of instruction and unification. Her children have not been narrow minded, nor unreasonably clanish. Dwelling among all peoples, carrying with them ever heart hunger and undying love for "Caledonia stern and wild," they have yet shown the breadth and warmth of their sympathies by self-sacrificing labors for the enlightenment and civilization of the world.

Patriotism with the Scotchman is a deep and holy passion, but while he never forgets the old home and its traditions, he always proves true to the lofty aspirations of the patron saint. Andrew not only interprets the brotherhood of man, but teaches how we may enter into its communion. He was a fisherman with a hungry heart and soul—a living exemplification of the Master's teaching. Andrew teaches that work forgotten by man, and inconspicuous workers are alike remembered, and rewarded. Andrew's name drops out of the record of the acts of the apostles. The world and the church may forget even the names of its faithful helpers but God remembers.

COMING TO ST. JOHN. St. John citizens will learn with interest of the coming visit of Mr. Bernhard Lindman, the celebrated Pruss expert of Montreal. This eminent specialist will be at the Royal Hotel Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, December 1st, 2nd and 3rd, where he will treat all cases of Rupture—no charge for examination or advice. Read the following letter which is only one of many hundreds. Montreal, 22nd June, 1903. Mr. B. Lindman, 130 Peel Street, Montreal. Dear Sir:—

I feel it due to you to state in writing the following facts:—For years I suffered from Scrotal Hernia and after using several kinds of Trusses, which were recommended to me I was on the 26th May, 1902, fitted with one of your well-known trusses and after wearing the same for about nine months I was entirely cured and thereupon discontinued the use of your truss and have not up to the present time, required its use and feel as if I never had been troubled with Hernia. I may add that I am now eighty-seven years of age and have never felt better than I do at present. Yours gratefully, (Signed) CHARLES TAYLOR.

On this twenty-second day of June, nineteen hundred and three, before me the undersigned notary, appeared Charles Taylor, of the city of Montreal, Mechanical Engineer, to me known who solemnly declared unto me that the statements contained in the foregoing letter are true and correct. (Signed) GEO. R. W. KITTSON, N.P. Seal.

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NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the first general meeting of "The St. John Times Printing and Publishing Co. (Limited)" will be held at the office of the Evening Times on the corner of Canterbury and Church Streets, in the City of Saint John, in the City and County of Saint John and Province of New Brunswick on THURSDAY, the 1st Day of December, A. D. 1904, at the hour of half past three o'clock in the afternoon, for the organization of the said company, adoption of by-laws, election of directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the said meeting. Dated the twelfth day of November A. D. 1904.

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