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WHOLE No. 3230

Board of Works Jan 07

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A Few Interesting Facts!

THE SCOTTISH UNION & NATIONAL Fire Insurance Co of Edinburgh, Scotland, has Assets of \$46,230,784.42
The North British & Mercantile Insurance Co of Edinburgh and London has a capital of \$80,343,315.46
The Sun Insurance Co of London, England, is the oldest fire insurance office in the world. The London & Lancashire, The Hartford and the New York Underwriters are leaders. It would be impossible to find 6 more Reliable Fire Insurance Companies in the world to day than the above mentioned—no Technicalities, no Law Suits, but Honorable, Prompt and Satisfactory Settlement of all Claims
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Dr Pugsley Vindicated; His Accusers Discredited.

(Toronto Globe, May 8)

The outstanding feature of yesterday's debate in parliament was Hon Dr Pugsley's demonstration that there never was a serious public document issued in the history of the dominion containing so many and so flagrant errors as the report of the commission which investigated the affairs of the New Brunswick Central Railway.

The document has already been discredited by the discovery that sums which should have been stated as \$43,000 and \$50,000 appear in the report as \$430,000 and \$500,000 respectively. With his intimate knowledge of administration in New Brunswick, Dr Pugsley was able to show that these were only simple misrepresentations in a perfect tissue of erroneous statements, which would require a great deal of charity to believe them to be anything else than wilful falsehoods.

The painful part of it is that a judge of the superior court of New Brunswick should have set his hand and given his sanction to such a document.

The opposition started out under the assumption that Dr Pugsley was in the prisoner's dock; before the debate had gone far it was Judge Landry who was in that position.

Mr T W Crothers, who led the attack for the opposition, took his stand on the report as the judicial deliverance of a court, and it must be admitted that it was in that character that it created an impression on the country. He dwelt with unctious on the solemnity of the character of the commission, which he represented as having all the powers, authority, and dignity of a court.

Dr Pugsley was able to puncture this pretension, in the first place by furnishing instances of the extraordinary recklessness of statement and inference that marked almost every page of the commission's deliverance, but still more by drawing attention to a piece of conduct of which its members were guilty during the course of the inquiry. In the midst of the Dominion general elections the commissioners summoned an accountant from Montreal, and, twelve days before polling day, procured the publication in the press of a statement that there was a discrepancy between the receipts and disbursements on the railway of \$160,000. This body, upon whose solemnity, judiciality, and impartiality Mr Crothers dwelt with such gravity, was evidently a partizan in the election fight for all its worth, and made this interim misstatement without having called Dr Pugsley to testify on his own behalf.

The gross piece of partizanship was but a specimen of the political bias with which Dr Pugsley proved the report to be saturated.

It will be seen in the resume of his powerful defence, appearing elsewhere, that the minister of public works accumulated a mass of proof against the good faith of this report that stamps it as one of the most disgraceful documents to which a Canadian judge ever attached his name.

Dr Pugsley made the statement from his place in the house that this gentleman who masquerades as a judge is found at every election coquetting with the political parties for a nomination in one or other of the New Brunswick constituencies.

This was the member of the judiciary whose services the government of New Brunswick called into requisition to lead in an attack on the Lieutenant Governor of the province and on Dr Pugsley, its most distinguished public man.

Why was a judge of Mr Landry's stamp chosen for a task where character and freedom from partizanship were so much to be desired?

THERE CAN BE NO AVOIDING THE CONCLUSION THAT DR PUGSLEY'S POLITICAL ENEMIES CHOSE A COMMISSION WHICH COULD BE TRUSTED TO GO TO ANY LENGTH IN ENDEAVORING TO BLAST THE CHARACTER OF A POLITICAL OPPONENT.

The last has not been heard of the disgraceful affair. Dr Pugsley has demonstrated most triumphantly that they picked out the wrong man as the object of their venom. The shaft aimed at him has recoiled on those who sped it. Instead of injuring Dr Pugsley, this commission's report has vitally damaged the reputation of Judge Landry, and to that extent it reflects on the judiciary of the province.

THE JUDICIARY IN THIS COUNTRY HAS ALWAYS STOOD HIGH. THE INTERESTS INVOLVED ARE TOO SERIOUS, TOO FUNDAMENTAL TO A NATION'S WELL BEING TO ALLOW PREJUDICE AND PARTIZANSHIP IN A JUDGE TO CAST DISCREDIT ON THE JUDICIARY OF CANADA.

TOWN COUNCIL.

The last regular meeting of the Town Council.

Mayor Jones and all the Aldermen were present.

Treasurer Bourne reported for April, receipts \$806.20, expenditures \$1872.77, overdraft \$4889.30.

The marshal was unwell and there was no report from him in his absence.

Inspector Lindsay reported his work as inspector for Scott Act and Beer Licenses.

Ald Fawcett—As one of the committee appointed to visit the new school in Broadway I wish to say that I visited the building on two occasions. As far as I can see the building is not safe, although the splices, which was weak, has been strengthened. Whether the wall is sufficient to hold the roof or not I cannot say. Architect Mott says it is and that the building will stand forever. Mott could not say whether the concrete work was or was not done in frozen weather. I am not posted in concrete work, but we all understand the laying of brick. I can tell you that you can see daylight right through the concrete blocks. No man need take my word for it. They can come with me and I can show them daylight between the blocks if the job has not been patched up since. No man would think of laying brick that way. I repeat that I don't think the building is safe. I venture to say that there were lots of other things not done in a business way. To properly connect the water it calls for lead pipe that will stand the town pressure and which will last 50 years. When I was personally putting water into my building Supt D Munro told me the kind of pipe to get. I could not get the kind required in Woodstock and I sent away, laid the pipes, and I have had

no trouble since. I am told that galvanized iron pipes have been laid for the school instead of lead pipes. That could be easily found out. If the people of this town are satisfied that the building is safe, then I have not one word to say, but I do not think it is safe. Ald McManus heard the architect say that he would not pass the truss unless it was strengthened. I have gone to the building and have been told to stay out. I cannot see the necessity of locking the doors of the building when the men are at work. One man told me that he tried to get into the building on two different days and could not. Even a ratepayer tried today and could not get in. He was told that he had made some talk about the building being unsafe and that was why he could not get in. I have been asked why I did not say something about the building being unsafe before this. Last fall I spoke to the late Mayor Thorne about it, and he said that the council had nothing to do with it—it was the trustee's work. I then saw Inspector Green and among other things he told me that they spread blankets over the wall to protect it from the frost. I am satisfied that that man did not care if the building fell down. There is a four inch waste pipe unprotected; it should have a screen. (Ald Fawcett then read a letter from a lawyer in St Stephen, threatening him with a lawsuit over the matter.) Those people tried to close the mouths of the editors of the newspapers and this letter was used to scare me and close my mouth, but I will stay with them as long as I have a finger nail.

McVay threatened to prosecute the newspapers for publishing my speech last month. The architect told me that it was not built according to plans and specifications. I think ten tons weight will make the building collapse. The concrete blocks are strong enough if they were made

at the right season of the year. We all bed bricks in mortar and it seems that the blocks should have been bedded. If the teachers knew they would be very shy about going into the building. The only way is to put the weight on the roof. When I told a concrete man in Ottawa how the blocks were made, he said we had nothing. No practical man says that we have a good job. Would the contractor agree to put a ten ton weight on the roof.

Mr McVay, jr—Yes, 25 tons.
Ald Fawcett—Then I have no doubt that the town would pay the cost.

Mr McVay, Sr—There is not a word of truth in Ald Fawcett's statement. The architect says the building is safe. The man is talking about something he knows nothing about. We used the very best cement and lots of it. The work was thorough all through. Inspector Green is a thoroughly good man, and some more of your local men, Henry Post and Fewer Bros had contracts on the building and no one should accuse them of not doing their work right. We never attempted in any way to slight the building. It is far better than we agreed to put in. We can bring as good architects from St Stephen as you have in the province and they will pronounce the building A1. At one time we had six or eight tons weight on one of the trusses without doing any damage and there are six trusses, each of which will carry at least six tons.

Mr McVay, jr—I would like to ask Mr Malaney if I threatened him with a lawsuit if he published Ald Fawcett's speech.

Mr Malaney—I would not put it that way, but you certainly intimidated that you were likely to enter a suit against the dispatch because that paper did publish a brief report of the speech.

Ald McManus—I was a member of the committee that made a visit to the new school. Of course I am not much of a mechanic but I was very much pleased at the size and looks of the new building. Architect Mott has assured me that certain places in the building have not been passed yet. Before the building is passed I am satisfied that it will be a good building.

Ald Fisher said he was also a member of the committee, and being a practical man he had made an examination of the building. He did not have the plans and specifications to go by. He had examined the splices in the trusses referred to and considered them perfectly safe, and capable of standing any strain put upon them. If there were any defects in the concrete work now is the time they would be seen. He could not see any defects and thought the building was perfectly sound. In regard to seeing daylight through the concrete blocks, pointing would remedy the matter. Frost would not interfere with the concrete blocks. In the winter of 1877 the best brick and stone buildings now in St John were erected. When the school is pointed up and cleaned down, it will prove to be satisfactory in every particular. He did not think that there would be sufficient snow on the roof at any time to hurt the building.

On motion Ald McManus, seconded Ald Fisher, Messrs Gallagher, Doak and Gibson were given permission to address the board.

G W Gibson—We have started to resurrect the Woodstock band. Our scheme is that all the instruments purchased from whatever source the money may be obtained will become the property of the town council. If anything happens to the present band the town will have the instruments for a new band. We ask the council for a grant of \$300. In the past the merchants have been asked to help, but by this method all the citizens will be contributing as all of them will get the benefit of the concert.

J W Gallagher—I can only add that the band will give a public concert once a week from May until the middle of September. We have bought some good instruments, and the player has to sign a form that the instrument he is playing belongs to the town.

Ald Ketchum—Of course the committee is asking for a substantial sum of money and the request should be carefully considered. It does seem too bad that the people have had no band for some months and they should have one.

On motion the matter was laid over until Friday night.

A letter was read from C P R stating that the company has been paying the town the sum of \$310.00 per year for water, and thought the rate of 12 1/2 cents per 1000 gallon was too high. They asked for a reduction. Referred to water committee.

Mayor Jones, Ald Ketchum and Fawcett, delegates from the council, reported on the visit, re St John Valley Railway, to Ottawa. The mayor said it looked as if we had failed in the object of the mission, but he trusted we would still get the road. The only way to get anything is to keep right after it, and that is what we propose doing.

Ald Hagerman resented that part of it which charged that he was one of three conservatives who voted down motions made by the two liberals at a previous meeting. He was not a conservative, nor a liberal. He was under no obligations to either party, and belonged to no clique or party.

Several bills were read and referred to finance committee.

Mayor Jones referred to a claim of \$100 which the school board says is due it.

On the advice of Ald Ketchum, the mayor will talk the matter over with the board of school trustees.

Applications for licenses to sell beer were received from Troy's restaurant, H A Palmer, Charles W Wright, Howard McDonald, Mert Hanson, John Y Smith, Hugh Shannon, H Stevenson, Fred McLean.

Ald Fawcett—There seems to be a dispute whether or not we can limit the number of licenses. For myself I am not disposed to let the fee remain at \$50.

Mr Hartley—The opinion of the court seems to be that anyone agreeing to comply with the by-law must be given a license, and if the license is refused he can with safety sell without a license.

Moved Ald Hagerman, seconded Ald Fisher, that a copy of the beer license, along with the names of those to whom licenses are given, be published in the papers of the town. Carried.

Ald Fawcett—I will vote against granting beer licenses. You are simply licensing a rum shop. The bartender is standing at his bar every minute and every hour, and no inspector can catch him.

Ald McManus—When the beer law was started the idea was to get the saloons in such a position that the inspector could visit them at any time. If the law is not satisfactory the only way is to repeal it.

On motion Ald Ketchum, seconded Ald Dugan, all the applicants were granted a beer license, Ald Fawcett voted no.

Ald Dugan gave notice that he would move an amendment to the beer law, that any man holding a license, convicted under the Scott Act shall lose his license for all time.

Ald Hagerman pointed out that the date for shutting off defaulting water takers should be June 1st instead of May 4th as published.

Voted that if the superintendent find any water meters out of repair he notify the owners to repair them, and those that belong to the town to be repaired by the town; those having meters out of repair will be charged the regular rates.

On motion Ald Dugan, seconded Ald Hagerman, tenders will be asked for a superintendent for water works, sewers and fire alarm.

Ald McManus reported that the sewers would be flushed and the stand pipe looked after at once.

Ald Fisher was given permission to purchase a light truck wagon for the fire department.

Moved Ald Fisher, seconded Ald Hagerman, that \$150 be charged to the sewers and credited to the fire for hose furnished the sewer department.

Moved in amendment by Ald McManus, seconded by Ald Ketchum, that the matter lie over until Friday. Amendment carried.

Adjourned.

(Continued on eighth page.)

A GUARANTEE OF SAFETY.

Most of the "soothing" syrups and powders advertised to cure the ills of babies and young children contain poisonous opiates, and an overdose may kill the child. Baby's Own Tablets are sold under the guarantee of a government analyst that they contain no opiate or harmful drug. They can be given with absolute safety to a new born child. They cure all those minor ailments originating in disordered stomach or bowels. Mrs F Young, River Hebert, N S, says:—"I have used Baby's Own Tablets for constipation and stomach trouble and when my baby was teething, and have found them the best medicine I know of for these troubles." Sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cts a box from The Dr Williams' Medicine Co, Brockville, Ont.

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