

PROSPECTS ARE BRIGHT.

TAX REDUCTION CANDIDATES ARE IN THE FIELD TO WIN.

First Symptoms of the Intention of Leading Kellyites to Knife Their Associates—A Disorganized Opposition—The Reform Ticket Sure of a Good Majority.

The work goes on merrily in the committee rooms of the T. R. A. The number of citizens who have come forward to lend their assistance to elect the ticket is one of the most encouraging signs of the contest. There is no doubt in the minds of those who have gone over a part of the wards, who have moved among and talked with the people, regarding the result. Tax reduction is in the air and the candidates of the T. R. A. will be voted for by the people. Absurd canvasses are met on every side for the friends of the opposition are not idle but it is a personal canvass. They are working for men not for principle. The copied platform of the Kelly-Christie-McGoldrick ticket is not put forward as a vote lever. In fact the canvass of the opposition has come down to the "split," "Vote for me" says each candidate, "and put on any other man, T. R. A. or not, I do not care."

This is borne out by the tickets that are distributed. Those of Mr. Law of Victoria Ward has the name of Alderman Seaton "scratched" and the voter is expected to do the rest. This is very safe for Mr. Law but not so satisfactory to the gentleman who are associated with him.

There seems to be some sort of cohesion between the "King of Dufferin"—the "boss of Dufferin" is old now—John Kelly and aldermen Christie and McGoldrick. The opponents of T. R. A. count them as their choice men and they will make a desperate effort to carry them. Tickets with their names unscratched are being scattered everywhere and unless voters are cautious and scan their ballots carefully some of those who intend to vote otherwise may hand them in.

So far the association has not had much assistance from Alderman Shaw, though he is expected to arrive in the city to-day and to carry out his promise to the executive to vote and work for the whole ticket. It is well known that while personally friendly to Mr. Peters he is opposed to a fourth term and on that ground will take his stand. Wellington ward will be good battle territory on next Tuesday and the result of the vote there will depend largely upon the vim and earnestness Mr. Shaw throws into the contest. The good work that he does for the association in this election will no doubt lose him nothing in the future. The leaders in the T. R. A., look for more than they expect the election of the whole ticket and will work to that end.

They have the surplus office holders against them. Many of the officials fail to realize that it is dangerous for them to take too active a part in civic elections and few if any of them follow the example of Chamberlain Sandall and do not vote. Of course there can be no objection to any official exercising his right to vote but those who, like Director Smith, show their preferences too strongly place themselves in a peculiar position.

The policy of the T. R. A. is economy, the abolition of what they consider useless offices and unnecessary officials and when the pruning day arrives these things may not be forgotten.

PROGRESS has always held that three engineers are too many for the city to pay; that there are too many official heads in the department of public works and that the office of director of public safety should do away with at least one, if not two officials now drawing comfortable salaries.

These may be unpopular changes so far as these officials and their friends go but the people look for retrenchment in these as well as in other directions. The policy of the T. R. A. is not an empty one. They are pledged to economy and the people who have supported them and will support them expect to see some tangible evidence of their proposals as soon as it is possible for them to make the changes.

So far as anything can be morally certain in this world, the T. R. A. ticket is a sure winner. Allowing for any amount of scratching, and the dropping of the men with the least strength, the new council, at the worst, would be two to one in favor of civic reform, but it may be even better than that. If the people do as they ought to do, every man will be elected, and even the anti-reform people will not be surprised if this is the result.

The Kelly ticket has no chance as a ticket, and the gentlemen on it are realizing that it is a case of every man for himself, whoever gets in. The T. R. A. candidates, on the contrary are working loyally for the whole ticket. That is the difference between men who are working for themselves and men who are working for a principle.

There will be a keen contest for the office of mayor. Mr. Peters still poses as the "people's candidate," oblivious of the fact that he publicly disclosed last year that

he would not be a candidate this year, and that on this occasion he has brought himself out because he is anxious to hold on to the office. Mr. Robertson, on the contrary, has been brought forward to represent something besides personal ambition, and the names on his nomination paper speak for themselves. They include many men, who have heretofore supported Mayor Peters, who on personal grounds would like to support him again, but who like to see any man satisfied when he has enough, without wanting to hold an office for life.

Mr. Geo. A. Davis, is making a strong fight as a candidate for alderman at large on a ticket of his own, and has hired halls to a greater extent than anybody in the field.

The reform candidates for aldermen at large are Patrick McCarthy and D. J. McLaughlin. The election of the former is conceded by everybody, and it is more than probable Mr. McLaughlin will also be elected.

C. B. Lockhart and J. B. M. Baxter will be the West Side aldermen in the new council, unless all signs fail. It would be an extraordinary thing if they were not when their splendid record as representatives is taken into the question, and the election of their opponents would be a mistake. Lockhart and Baxter may confidently look for majorities in their own wards, where they and their opponents are best known, while on the east side they will get a rousing vote from all friends of reform.

On the east side, Messrs Waring, Blizard, Daniel, Kennedy, and McRobbie, have more than good chances. The North End is not counted on as favoring the T. R. A., but allowing for a majority for Kelly and company there, it will be more than neutralized by the vote in the city proper.

The only course to be taken by people who want lower taxes is to vote the T. R. A. ticket without the omission of a name. If the city is ever to have reform, now is the time to strike for it.

PRECEDENCE IN HALIFAX.

Attorney General Longley Gets a Pointer from a Society Lady.

HALIFAX, April 12.—There is a piece of gossip at the clubs to which the society writers will probably not give currency, but which is vouched for as strictly true. The principals were attorney-general Longley and Mrs. Archer, wife of principal Medical Officer Archer, of the garrison, and the place government house. The point of it will be appreciated when it is remembered that Hon. Mr. Longley is professedly a democrat in contradistinction to an aristocrat. He loves the masses as he hates the classes (theoretically.) Nothing could be more repulsive to his theory of what is right in the state than the idea that any man is better than another unless he made himself better by his own genius or industry. Every one is born equal in Mr. Longley's eyes.

Lieutenant Governor Daly gave a dinner a few days ago, when his honor's table was surrounded by the quota of society, professional and business people. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Longley, and Mr. and Mrs. Archer. The Attorney General was the only member of the local government present. Of course the evening passed off pleasantly. Towards the close of the dinner Mr. Longley found himself in conversation with Mrs. Archer. The lady remarked to him that she would have to leave almost immediately, as her carriage had been announced and she had to make a call on her way home.

"Oh, excuse me" Mr. Longley replied animated by his recollection of what court etiquette provides in such cases, "but you have not precedence here, and how can you think of doing such a thing?"

In the absence of premier Fielding it is said the attorney-general considered he himself had "precedence."

"My dear Mr. Longley," was Mrs. Archer's unhesitating response "you may have 'precedence' of me in age, but as for any other 'precedence' in Halifax society I do not know what it is."

That brought the conversation to an end, and the democrat was once more anew convinced that in this country there should be no such thing as class distinction. Mrs. Archer did not delay her departure.

Outgrew His Uniform.

One of the officers of the volunteers made an alarming discovery when getting ready to go to the recent concert of the Fusiliers battalion. During the non-military days of the winter, he had been taking on flesh to a rapid extent, and when he went to put on his uniform, he found he had outgrown it. By dint of earnest effort and the assistance of friends, he succeeded in getting tightly buttoned up, but with the knowledge that he did not dare to sit down lest his lothes would fly asunder. He went to the concert and stood up during performance, and when he went later to a social gathering the same military, though uncomfortable, attitude was necessary in order to make sure there would be no accident. The problem now is whether it will be better to invest in a new uniform or begin a course of dieting.

LOOKS AFTER HIS MEN.

O'SULLIVAN'S WAY OF GETTING AT THINGS IN HALIFAX.

He Believes in Being Vigilant and Has Some Surprise Parties—Inspector Banks and His Aggressive Policy in Regard to Enforcing the Liquor License Law.

HALIFAX, April 12.—Chief O'Sullivan is getting the police force of Halifax down to a fine point of efficiency, and the end of the first year of his command is marked by a wonderful difference compared with the force when he took charge of it. At that time it was broken up into cliques, each faction with its band so to speak, on the throat of a rival faction. There was the Nickerson faction, the Power faction and the O'Sullivan faction. Every man was against his neighbor. A different order of things prevails today. Factions have been broken up and, as far as possible, the force has been moulded into a homogeneous whole working well together. There is now only one head for the men on duty and they know it.

This reform has not been accomplished without patient work. Agitation on the part of the citizens was necessary to initiate the movement. A bitter fight in the city council had to take place to secure the appointment of Chief O'Sullivan, and next the new chief had to take off his coat and set to work directly on the men. Some weeding had to be done and many changes had to be made.

Eternal vigilance has to be exercised in order to maintain the efficiency that has been secured. An instance of this necessary watchfulness, and its results, occurred a couple of nights ago. Everything could not have been going quite right, for Chief O'Sullivan, contrary to his custom, walked into the police station at midnight. He is usually in and about the station from 7 in the morning till 10 or 11 at night. The chief went away, ostensibly for home, at 10 o'clock on this occasion, so that his re-appearance an hour later, at 12, was a little surprise for the men who had just come in for relief and for them who were on station duty. The chief had come to stay for the night and after hours, till 4 o'clock, as the different reliefs came in he was there to inspect the men. Finally he repaired to his private office to consider the mental notes he had made, and to sleep till morning, when he was on hand for his seven o'clock inspection as usual.

The chief's vigil was not without result, for next day, without a word of explanation, the command was given that there were to be three changes in the beats. Policeman Fitzpatrick was ordered to leave the north end and take the south; Policeman Rowan to leave the south for the centre; and policeman A. Sullivan was transferred from the centre to the north. Though no explanations were made the men had a pretty clear understanding why the new orders were given, and the key to it is found in a remark that fell from the chief: "While it is desirable that men should be acquainted with their beats, there is such a thing as being too well acquainted with them."

The police force of this city consists of the chief; deputy chief; detective; 6 sergeants; 36 men.

While on the subject of police reform in Halifax it is just to mention the efforts put forth by ex-alderman G. E. Boak while chairman of the old police committee. He set the ball rolling which did not stop till the present satisfactory condition was attained. This is true despite the fact that he was opposed to the election of Mr. O'Sullivan to the chiefship.

There is another civic official in Halifax in whom PROGRESS readers are interested, on account partially of the curiosity with which they watched the career of his predecessor, J. A. Mackassey. H. H. Banks, the new liquor license inspector, is not allowing the grass to grow under his feet. Hardly a day passes but he either makes a seizure or it becomes known that his eye is on some "suspect." So far he is largely taking lessons from the police, and he and Chief O'Sullivan seem to be walking hand in hand. He has lots of courage and is as prompt as clock-work. Possibly Banks errs on the side of rashness, at least that is what some people thought when he sprang over the counter in Donneghy's establishment some time ago. The whole police force is at his disposal and usually he is accompanied by a uniformed man, though some of his visits he has made alone. For considerable time yet to come he will have to act on advice of the police, and see that he has at his side a stout policeman.

Inspector Banks is following an "aggressive policy" there is no doubt. There are those who say it is only the "new broom which is sweeping clean," and they predict that Banks will soon get into the rut—almost as deeply as his predecessor, especially if he finds out that in some line of business, doing one's duty does not always pay best. Time will tell. At present, it certainly looks as if Banks intends to make it decidedly interesting for many people all the year through. He is said to be keeping

a close watch on the big hotels and billiard rooms. He visited the St. James' billiard parlor Monday night. The proprietors of these establishments are meeting Banks' scrutiny by extra vigilance. It is pretty safe to bet that this year Inspector Banks and Chief O'Sullivan will make a record in their joint attack on their friends or enemies in the liquor business who fail to observe the provisions of the rigid law. Both are determined men and don't look much like turning back. Inspector Banks wants to keep his position more than one year. Will a faithful or a lax carrying out of his duties best secure re-election? Judging by Makassey's fate he had better carry out the law if he wants to get back. But that is a hard task. By the way, it is said that the late inspector is being kept in view by the liquor trade as a candidate for the inspectorship next year, but that they are paying him is old salary is very doubtful.

JOHN KELLY IS GENEROUS.

Very Willing to Reduce the Taxes When It Costs Him Nothing.

The appeals committee had a session on Monday, the last before the election, and Alds. Christie and Kelly were there in their glory. Mr. Kelly is always ready to make friends among voters who want their taxes reduced, and he was more than agreeable on this occasion. One citizen considered that he had been unduly assessed at \$57, and wanted a reduction. He did not say what he felt he ought to pay, but he would doubtless have considered that he was let off easy at \$40.

"How much do you think you can pay?" asked Ald. Kelly.

The applicant did not know. He was probably thinking, but fortunately for his own interests he did not immediately name any sum.

"How would \$25 suit you? Do you think you could pay that?" asked the affable Kelly.

The citizen jumped at the offer of course, and everybody was happy.

Everybody knows that Ald. Kelly, personally, is an exceedingly genial man, and it must be admitted that he is an exceedingly generous one as well, especially on the eve of an election, when the city only is the loser and he is likely to be the gainer.

He Took in the Situation.

Rector Little of Sussex "knows a thing or two" as the saying goes, or for giving his enemies a sly dig or other such innocent pranks, he is unsurpassed. At the time of the beginning of the troubles in the church, when the regular choir had left, a new choir, composed mostly of the younger people had taken their places, the rector got in a rib-tickler on the "strikers" which has not yet appeared in print. On the night of the first services after the regular choir had been "ordered out" they all attended church to hear the "youngsters" sing, and during the rendering of the last piece joined in the singing with a will, evidently bent on drowning out the new-comers. After the hymn was finished the rector arose. He expressed himself as delighted. Had never heard as good singing in that church since he came there; was very much pleased to hear the members of the congregation join in the singing with such hearty good will—a thing he had always believed in. The congregation took in the situation and smiled; the old members looked foolish. They did not sing the next night.

Supporting the Constables.

The chamberlain's office is doing its duty by the constables this year. Despite the fact that in every year people voluntarily pay large amount of taxes before the elections, some 4,000 executions have been issued, and when a man goes to pay his bill he finds 50 cents against him for alleged "costs." He has heard nothing of an execution, the constable has not been near him and has done nothing, in fact, to earn the fee. The charging of these costs seems to be simply for the purpose of raising a fund to support the constables. The latter, when cornered, will sometimes admit they have done nothing to notify those against whom they have executions, while in other cases they will simply lie by alleging that they have called at a man's house when he was out. In the aggregate the people have to pay a good deal of money to men who have done nothing to earn it. A good deal more might be said on this question. The law may be right enough in theory, but its application is anything but fair to the citizens.

Told Some Plain Truths.

Rector Sibbald gave the congregation of St. Luke's church a plain talk last Sunday morning on the dissensions and strife that some of them had been creating. He also had a few words on what was and was not good deportment around the church on Sunday. It was wrong, for one thing, for people to stand in the lobby before service, to discuss matters in general, and he requested that in future the ushers alone should stand there. This advice was taken by most of the people in the evening, but the vestry clerk and one of the new vestrymen showed their independence by standing there as usual.

THEY OWN A VACANT LOT

WARDENS AND VESTRY DISCOVER THEY HAVE NO CHURCH.

Fairville People Cannot Have a Rector at the Church of the Good Shepherd—They Think Bishop Kingdon Allowed Them to Get Very Badly Sold.

The rector at the church of the Good Shepherd, Fairville, has utterly disappeared, and Rev. W. LeB. McKiel, late of St. Martin's is priest-in-charge.

There is no scandal connected with the mysterious disappearance, from the fact that there has never been a rector in point of law, though in point of fact the people were sure they had one when they secured Mr. McKiel. Bishop Kingdon is authority for the statement that there is not and cannot be such a functionary for the church of the Good Shepherd, and that if the people want a rector, they will have to find a church in which to put him. The church of the Good Shepherd belongs to the bishop and not to the people.

Readers of PROGRESS will remember the story of Rev. Mr. Hudgell's experience in Fairville a few months ago. Mr. Hudgell was the successor of Rev. J. C. Titcombe, priest-in-charge, who was located there as a missionary for more than seven years. He managed the affairs of the church in a business-like way, and was responsible only to the bishop. Last July, before leaving for England, Mr. Titcomb induced Mr. Hudgell as his successor, with some sort of a ceremonial of his own, which included the ringing of the church bell by the new man, who felt that to all intents and purposes he was to carry on the work just as Mr. Titcombe had carried it on.

There was this difference, however, between Mr. Titcombe and Mr. Hudgell. The former had always made the people conform to his way of doing things, while in Mr. Hudgell's case the people undertook to make him conform to their way of doing things. Mr. Titcombe had been a ritualist, with an altar, crosses, candles, colored cassocks and even a red sanctuary lamp, which in a catholic church would have some significance, but in a protestant chancel was simply a misleading ornament, which did not even furnish light enough to give an excuse for its existence. This lamp went away when Mr. Titcombe went, but the other ornaments remained and Mr. Hudgell used them, for he, too, was a ritualist who aimed at a somewhat high service.

The congregation took the bit in their teeth, however, and decided to ask for incorporation as a parish. Mr. Hudgell opposed the idea, but the bishop, on being consulted, pointed them to the law providing that any three communicants can summon a meeting for the election of wardens and vestry. In respect to Lancaster, he added, it was thought a church corporation once existed which had died out. If such was the case, the bishop suggested that it would "be well to give the newly formed corporation the same name."

The bishop further wrote that, before the church of the Good Shepherd was built, the only church was the little one on the Manawagonish road, consecrated in 1817, and it there was a corporation then it was probably called after that church. "In the meantime," he added, "though there need be no particular trouble about the formation of a church corporation, I think it would be well to wait a little till we are quite sure of our ground as to the name."

This was in September last. The petitioners then felt that everything was favorable, and the question of the name seemed to them a matter of minor importance. They held a meeting early in October, and had a pretty warm time between the Hudgell and anti-Hudgell parties. They elected a corporation, however, but would not consent that Mr. Hudgell should be rector. They acquiesced the bishop with their course, and he replied hoping that no name would be given to the corporation until more was known as to the corporation supposed to have existed before. He concluded by remarking, "I hope it may be possible to maintain peace, now that a step has been taken in the direction of a corporation."

The legality of the meeting for incorporation having been affirmed by the bishop, the people felt that matters were looking very bright for them. They needed only a rector, for they had declined to elect Mr. Hudgell, though he was the only candidate for the place. They kept on the lookout for available men, however, and shortly before Easter they secured Mr. McKiel.

Mr. Alfred Lordy had been named by the bishop as his agent, and during Holy Week he wrote to the bishop, asking a number of questions in the capacity of a warden of the church of the Good Shepherd, to which position he supposed he had been duly elected. The bishop's reply came as an Easter greeting, and was a very large surprise.

The bishop informed Mr. Lordy that he was not a warden of the church of the Good Shepherd; it was a mistake to suppose that church was a parish church, and

the bishop did not think it ever could be such. The land was leased to the bishop and the corporation could have no control not conceded them by the bishop. He pointed out that the "parish church" of Lancaster had been pulled down a few years ago. Its name he said was St. Anne's and that would be the name of the corporation. When St. Anne's church was rebuilt the new corporation would have control over it, but not over the church of the Good Shepherd. He also intimated that the people active in the new corporation had not either spent money in the erection of the latter church or been constant and devout attendants. It was doubtful even if they were entitled to the name of "parishioners," and it would be unfair to listen to them to the exclusion of others.

The alleged parish Church down the road is claimed by the people to have been merely a chapel of ease for St. Anne's church, Musquash, and they hold that the bishop has got the two badly mixed. Musquash was formerly included in the civil parish of Lancaster, and then the church in which Mr. Spike now officiates was St. Anne's, as it is now, and was, of course, the parish church. When the parish of Lancaster was divided, the new parish of Musquash got the church, while the old wayside chapel subsequently fell into decay. Mr. Titcombe, utilized as much as he could of it to build the Fairville clergy house, which the bishop now says does not belong to the parish.

So the members of the congregation of the church of the Good Shepherd who went to so much trouble to have wardens and vestry, to run things to suit themselves, find that the only church they are supposed to control is that which is not yet built on the vacant lot down the road. The church of the Good Shepherd is just where it was before, and Mr. McKiel, instead of being rector, is simply priest-in-charge. According to the bishop's ruling, if a rector is wanted a new church will have to be built on the old lot down the road.

Mr. McKiel is likely to suit the majority as priest in charge. He is a "Prayer Book Churchman." Before he came he told the people that he had never used candles, and that they would rather hinder than help him in his services. This gave the new corporation the idea that they could get rid of the obnoxious candlesticks on and around the altar, and they asked the bishop about it. They were willing to retain the cross and a number of the ornaments, but they did not see the need of candlesticks when no "candles would be used. The bishop, in his letter to Mr. Lordy, declined to give his sanction for the removal of the candlesticks, which, he says "are perfectly legal ornaments."

Bishop Kingdon has gone to England, leaving an amazed and perturbed body of wardens and vestry in charge of a lot on the Manawagonish road, on which they have full liberty to build their parish church if they want to enjoy the luxury of a rector. Why the bishop did not explain the matter at the outset, before they had put themselves to so much trouble for nothing, is something they fail to understand.

A Twenty Page Paper.

It will not need more than a hasty glance at the 20 pages of PROGRESS to-day to convince any one that it is a very healthy paper. The first part of this week we had no intention of issuing 20 pages but the orders for advertisements continued to come so rapidly and for such large spaces that if more space had not been added the reading matter would indeed have been curtailed.

But with 20 pages, as its regular issue to-day PROGRESS gives some indication of its value to advertisers. It is also an evidence of the capacity of the mechanical department of the paper and their great efficiency that a 20 page paper, requiring such careful press work and of such large circulation, can be issued in three days of the week.

Two full page advertisements that have never appeared before claim attention in this issue, and an old favorite, the dictionary, which is undoubtedly the most profitable "adv." PROGRESS ever inserted, is found room for once more. Dictionary duty is high now, more than three times what it was before the new tariff, but the price of PROGRESS and Webster—\$3.95—remains the same while the present stock lasts.

For The Fortieth Time.

Readers of PROGRESS ought to know by this time that it is of no use for them to send personals for publication without some evidence of their being sent in good faith. Items of this kind are rejected every week, and will continue to be rejected. Most of them no doubt are all right, but it is impossible for PROGRESS to judge.

Not a New Kellyite.

Mr. T. Barclay Robinson, one of the aldermen at large on the Kelly anti-reform ticket, is not wholly new to municipal politics. He was in the old Portland town council for a time.