

WANTED, A CANDIDATE

SOMEBODY NEEDED TO TAKE THE PLACE OF MR. WELDON.

The vacancy on the Liberal Ticket must be filled at an early day—Men who are talked about—Mr. Ellis may or may not continue to be a candidate.

The death of Mr. Charles W. Weldon has made necessary a change of programme by the liberal party in St. John, and will call for action at an early day in order to secure a suitable candidate to take his place. Messrs. Weldon and Ellis were the choice of the liberal convention some months ago when it was expected that an election would be sprung suddenly on the people, and the action taken at that time stands good, of course, at whatever time the elections may be. Mr. Weldon's death leaves Mr. Ellis as the sole candidate, and one of the present day problems is to supply him with a running mate.

This is not so easy a matter as a stranger might suppose. The man who is needed is one with two prime qualifications, money and popularity, and the money is not the least of the considerations. There are men who have both of these qualifications who are not willing to come forward, and there are doubtless men willing to come forward who have neither. A man who had money without popularity might do a good service by helping to elect Mr. Ellis, but if he were only popular and had no money the effect might only be to give him a lead at the polls where both candidates would meet with defeat. A number of names have been mentioned, but some of them may be disposed of in very short order.

Mr. George McAvity, for instance, is by common consent looked upon as a good man for the place, but he considers his place is with his business. The McAvitys have their large business down to a system in which each of the firm has his special duties and responsibilities, and while keenly interested in the affairs of the country none of them appear to have the time or inclination to enter public life. Mr. McAvity was urged to be a candidate at the last general election, when it was felt that a young man was needed on the ticket and when from the point of view of the party managers, there was a good prospect of success in St. John. He declined very positively, and is understood to be equally as positive at the present time.

Mr. Joseph Allison would be another excellent man for the place, but there is little hope that he would consent, for though he is prominently to the front in public matters which are for the welfare of St. John and his people, an entry into political life means a sacrifice of time and attention which are needed in a business of large and increasing proportions.

Mr. James Manchester has also been mentioned, but it is believed he is not ambitious to enter into the excitement of politics, even though he has retired from active business life and has both means and leisure. Mr. Manchester would be a candidate of unimpeachable personal record, whose standing as a citizen would entitle him to high respect, and who would carry into public life a thoroughly practical mind rich with valuable experience.

During the last week, the name most frequently mentioned has been that of Col. Joseph Tucker. The Colonel is a gentleman of means and leisure, with a commanding presence and a good voice. If elected to parliament he would be the most distinctively military style of man who has gone there from St. John since the early days of Confederation, when Lieut. Col. the Hon. John Hamilton Gray was a member. He would give the people of Ontario the impression that we of the provinces by the sea are a great people in military affairs, and he would be as much at home in the chair of minister of militia as he is on the back of his charger when the Fusiliers parade in a march out around town. The Colonel's candidature would kill out any attempt of the conservatives to sound the old flag war cry in St. John, for his loyalty is one of his great virtues. The Colonel deserves well of the liberals of St. John, for he had it enough in their future to become the largest stockholder in the Telegraph Publishing company, and to pay in his thousands without any certainty that he would ever get anything in return beyond the consciousness of having made a sacrifice in a good cause. The relationship of the Colonel to the late candidate would of itself naturally bring him to the front now, and he has also means to assist in carrying the election of Mr. Ellis.

Failing his candidature, the name of Major Hugh H. McLean has been mentioned. The Major having been the partner of Mr. Weldon for years, is probably well conversant with that gentleman's ideas and the lines on which they should be carried out. Besides, judging from the special despatches he has been sending to some of the papers from Montreal this week, he is the natural successor of his late partner in the position of solicitor or agent for many of the great corporations of the

country, and it may be thought that he should succeed to the position in politics as well. The possible objection that he might raise would be that his duties as solicitor for so many corporations, as well as his responsibilities as manager or director of various railways and the like might prevent his giving his time to public affairs. Mr. Weldon did so, it is true, but he had the Major as a partner, but where is the Major to find a new partner who would be to him just what he was to Mr. Weldon? Major McLean is no novice in politics. He took an active part in the management of the party here in the last election, and had the party succeeded in carrying on election on the theories he put in practice he would have been entitled to a great deal of credit. The Major, like Col. Tucker, is an enthusiastic military man, and he would sit in the chair of the minister of militia as easily as he sits on a charger, and with even more grace than he displays on a bicycle.

Mr. H. A. McKeown has been mentioned as a possible candidate, and having been on both sides of politics, he would be well prepared to grapple with a liberal with any question of which he had previously mastered the points as a conservative. It is probable Mr. McKeown would take a nomination if it were pressed upon him.

Mr. John L. Carleton's name has also been discussed, but he has not been heard to signify his desire to come forward. Should he be nominated, it would mean a fusion of the Blair and anti-Blair elements in the party, and possibly the partial healing of the wound the Blair party received in the house of their friends in the recent local election campaign.

All the gentlemen so far have been considered as candidates with Mr. Ellis. There are some in the party who feel that the latter gentleman may find, in the loss of his colleague, a reason why he should relinquish the nomination in which, from past association, the one man seemed the natural complement of the other. There are some who go further and say that he should do so. They claim that, despite his careful course in his recent utterances, the old loyalty cry has still a force in a canvass against him. Beyond this they claim that his part in endeavoring to use the liberal party to the detriment of Mr. Blair has weakened him with many who would otherwise have not only voted but worked for him. Beyond this again, there are said to be other reasons why he is not so strong with all classes as he was even a few years ago.

Should he feel that under the altered condition of affairs he ought to leave the whole question of nomination to be dealt with anew, his renomination with another candidate ought to greatly strengthen his position. Should he, of his own desire or on the advice of leading liberals, decline to again come forward, a wholly new ticket would be formed, and it might then be easier to find two candidates than it now is to find one. On this theory some additional names might be mentioned of men who are not now to the front, including Dr. John Berryman and A. I. Trueman. And there are others.

TO SETTLE LABOR QUESTIONS.

Possibility That the Questions May Be Referred to a Committee.

The recent labor troubles in connection with the steamship lines will probably be adjusted at an early day, as the opinion seems to be gaining ground that the easiest way out of the difficulty is a consideration of the issues by a competent committee in which all interests would be represented. The questions are not in respect to wages, but as to certain regulations of the labor union, and the point would be to ascertain whether these regulations, made a good while ago, should now be maintained when the conditions of the past have changed in some respects. If the rules are to be retained there should be a friendly understanding on both sides as to the interpretation of them.

This ought to be easily accomplished if the matter is undertaken in the right spirit. The laborers could be represented by their officers, and confer with the president and secretary of the Board of Trade, the representatives of steamship lines, and possibly others. In such a conference, too, the assistance of somebody who has had experience in the adjustment of labor troubles in the past would be valuable. In this connection the name of Mr. Michael McDade naturally suggests itself, in view of the excellent results of his counsel in the adjustment of the millmen's troubles a few years ago. He would probably be acceptable to both sides.

Something should be done in the matter, and done soon, in the interests of the port of St. John as well as in the interests of labor. These little difficulties are apt to be magnified in the reports sent abroad, and the effect is bad for the port, just at the time when there is every reason why St. John should have as good a reputation as possible.

The snowshoer's loss has been the skater's gain so far this winter.

NOT YET IN HIS OFFICE.

A VERY LARGE HITCH IN THE CASE OF APPRAISER KELLY.

He Got the Appointment Sure Enough, but He Is Not Yet in the Office—How the Deal Was Worked—The Inner History of Those Telegrams to St. John People.

James Kelly, the de facto appraiser, returned to St. John from Ottawa this week, but declined to be interviewed by the newspapers in regard to his appointment. He has expressed himself freely enough to others, however, and he says that he is undoubtedly appointed and under salary at the present moment. As he has not been in office long enough for the first instalment of his salary to fall due, he has not yet been recouped for the money he spent in travelling expenses and telegrams, but it is likely he will get that much out of the hustle if he never gets anything more.

The correspondent who first sent word to St. John of Mr. Kelly's appointment had not so many wheels in his head as people supposed. He is really the de facto appraiser at the time of writing, whatever he may be a week or two hence, though Mr. James H. Hamilton is just as surely the de jure appraiser. Kelly is the choice of Mackenzie Bowell and C. N. Skinner, while Hamilton represents the three members for St. John, as well as the business community, so far as any of them think that any appointment whatever should be made. Very many on both sides of politics have seen no reason why Mr. McBeath should be superannuated, but if he has to go and the choice of a succession lies between Hamilton and Kelly, they don't want any Kelly in their's. The principal objection to him is that he is considered incompetent to fill such an important position. Those conversant with the duties of the office say it would take Mr. Hamilton a year to make himself fully acquainted with the work, though he is already fully versed in all that relates to dry goods, and has both education and recognized ability. How long, then, would it be before Mr. Kelly learned how to do the work?

Mr. Kelly is reported as asserting that both he and Hamilton are appointed and both are under salary at the present moment. He seems to think that two appraisers will be appointed. It is true, so, it would be a somewhat odd state of affairs, for it would show that the government superannuated a man because he was considered past the time of usefulness, yet that two able-bodied and presumably intelligent men were required to fill his place. Mr. Kelly's theory is not believed to be correct. He alone has been appointed so far, but he has not yet been set at work, even though Mr. McBeath has finished and retired. Mr. Kelly is a very troublesome factor in the situation just at present, but the general opinion is that Mr. Hamilton will eventually have the call.

Kelly's appointment was the work of Mackenzie Bowell, who seems to have stooped to a very rapid march on the St. John members. Mr. Hamilton's name had been unanimously agreed upon by the three members and started in the usual way to go before the council, with recommendations from the proper official quarter. In the ordinary course of events this is equivalent to the appointment being made, and thus it was that Mr. Hamilton was so notified. In the meantime, however, Kelly went to Ottawa, and C. N. Skinner followed. Through some back door influence brought upon Bowell, who then believed his government to be in the throes of dissolution, Kelly's name was shoved before the council and passed upon in the place of Hamilton's name. It was an extraordinary step and a complete slap in the face for the St. John members, who seem to have learned of the deal only when the appointment was made. It was the ignoring of the wishes of a constituency as expressed through the members, and a yielding to the wishes of a man who wanted an office and of another man who wanted him to get it.

The St. John members kicked, of course, and they are still kicking, while the advice they get from St. John is to keep on kicking until the matter is rectified. That is why Mr. Kelly has not gone to work, though he has undoubtedly been appointed and the office is vacant.

It was mentioned last week that Mr. Kelly when he first arrived at Ottawa, had sent a large number of telegrams to prominent conservatives in St. John, directing them to urge Mr. Hazen to accept a position in Bowell's cabinet. Since his return to St. John he has been kept busy explaining how it all came about, and in justice to him the explanation should be made public.

On Saturday, two weeks ago, Mr. Kelly went to the telegraph office in Ottawa with a telegram for his guide, philosopher and friend, C. N. Skinner. It directed Mr. Skinner to wire Mr. Hazen to accept a position in Bowell's cabinet, then in process of reconstruction. Mr. Hazen had been sought for the cabinet, but had not then made up his mind what to do, and Kelly wanted to have Mr. Skinner say a word. As fate would have it, Mr. Hazen also went to the telegraph office about the

same hour, with a telegram asking a number of people in St. John to advise him what would be the best course for him to take at this crisis. When he handed it in, he gave a slip of paper containing a number of names of citizens of St. John to whom the telegram was to be sent. These included W. H. Thorne, Dr. Wm. Christie, Ald. McGoldrick, W. Frank Hatheway, Daniel Mullin, Messrs. Stockton, Shaw, Alward and Ald. Wilson. By this plan Mr. Hazen calculated he would save himself the trouble of writing a separate telegram to each man. He did, but with remarkable results.

When the operator picked up Mr. Kelly's telegram directing Mr. Skinner what course to take, he also picked up Mr. Hazen's list of names and supposed it belonged to the Kelly message. In a few seconds the words intended for Mr. Skinner alone were ticking over the wires to the leading conservatives of St. John, while Mr. Hazen's message, intended for his advisers, went to one man only.

Mr. W. H. Thorne was mildly surprised at getting a somewhat peremptory order from James Kelly to wire Mr. Hazen to accept a position. So were Ald. McGoldrick and Daniel Mullin, neither of whom belong to Brother Kelly's lodge. President Hatheway, of the board of trade, wondered why on earth James Kelly should telegraph to him when he knew little or nothing of the man. Everybody else who got a telegram wondered if the excitement at Ottawa had had a bad effect on Mr. Kelly, while others were indignant that he should undertake to dictate to them.

Nobody sent any telegrams to Mr. Hazen, and he was greatly surprised at the silence of his friends at a time when he needed their counsel. In the meantime, Mr. Skinner had started for Ottawa.

By Monday, Mr. Hazen had accepted the silence of his constituents as an indication that they did not approve of his going into the cabinet. He accordingly decided to remain where he was.

In the meantime the discovery was made at the telegraph office that Mr. Kelly's telegram to Mr. Skinner had been sent to Mr. Hazen's friends, and at once an unsigned telegram was sent to the latter individuals countermanding the direction to wire Mr. Hazen. This mystified them more than ever. Then the telegraph office took another step by sending Mr. Hazen's message to all the people for whom it had been originally intended. They all replied at once, and Mr. Hazen was more than astonished to get a flood of despatches urging him not to enter the cabinet, many hours after he himself had decided not to do so.

That is why Mr. Kelly has been kept busy this week in hunting up Mr. Hazen's friends and explaining about that telegram.

MISS PATCHELL'S TROUBLE.

Cars on the Street in Front of Her House Make Difficulties for Her.

Miss Catherine Patchell, of Protection street, Carleton, feels that she has a substantial grievance against the Canadian Pacific railway. A track extends down the street, and on this freight cars are shunted and allowed to remain. Miss Patchell has decided objections to their remaining in that position.

It should be understood that Miss Patchell lives alone in a very quiet way and works hard to earn a living by hand painting. The room which she uses for this purpose faces the street, and when the cars are on the track outside, the room is so dark that she can pursue her calling only with great difficulties. On cloudy days it is next to impossible for her to see. This is a very serious matter with her, as her means of livelihood are slender at best and she has to work hard for the little she is able to earn. The loss of a day, or even a small part of a day, means a great deal to her.

In addition to this, she had to get water from the other side of the street, and when the cars are in a close line she is unable to do this without travelling a long distance to get around them. It cannot be expected that she would crawl between them or under them, as a boy might do.

Miss Patchell does not want the earth, but only a little of the light of heaven, and a right of way across the street. She has asked that the cars be separated so as to leave an open place in front of the house, but so far she has asked in vain. The trackmaster is said to have laughed at the suggestion, and when the chief of police sent Sergeant Ross to look into the matter the sergeant is also said to have considered the situation an amusing one. Miss Patchell has applied to the higher officials of the road, but so far without beneficial result, and now she is wondering what she ought to do next.

The matter of the cars on the street may seem a trifling one for some people, but it is a very serious one for Miss Patchell. Some better arrangement ought to be made to accommodate her.

ON A VERY CHEAP SCALE.

THE HALIFAX OFFICER WHO SET UP BEER AND SUNDRIES.

He Made a Good Bargain with the Publican—How the Hopes of the Latter Rose and Fell—A Bargain Was a Bargain and So the Account Was Settled.

HALIFAX, Jan. 23.—There is some quiet laughing going on regarding "a lunch" given by one of the officers of the gallant 66th P. L. F. to his company not long ago. It was in this wise: The members of the company received invitations printed on cards of gigantic size to attend a meeting of the company, the significant words "and lunch" being added to the notice regarding the meeting. The sending of the invitations was followed by negotiations on the part of the captain with a saloon and restaurant-keeper to provide the "lunch." Mine host was asked for his lowest terms for a supply of beer, biscuit and cheese, at first the price named was "ten cents a round." Further conference, however, brought this down to "eight cents a round." The night for the meeting and lunch came, and when business was over the company, 22 strong, wended their way to the saloon. The proprietor had laid in a large stock of biscuit and there were also preparations to supply many rounds of beer. The dining room was cleared for the festivities, and the captain and his lieutenant were there with the men. Round No. 1. was duly drunk and the biscuit, etc., likewise disappeared. Then the company were allowed to sing and talk. This they did to the best of their ability, for they sang and talked, and they talked and sang. By and bye they began to think that it was a long time between drinks, and eventually they besetened not to give audible expression to this fact. But further rounds appeared not. At length the "one-round lunch" came to an end and the crowd dispersed. The inn-keeper had a remarkable expression of countenance as the captain slipped up to settle. From the correctness and carefulness of the negotiations he had anticipated a big time, if not a half-the-night affair, but it had dwindled down to one drink each, and immense quantities of biscuit and cheese, far less than the regulation price of a drink apiece.

"Well, what's the charge?"

"Oh, two dollars will do."

"A bargain's a bargain my friend," the captain retorted. "It was to be eight cents a round, and they have had only one round."

"Well, that's so," the proprietor answered, with a look of supreme disgust. "The bill is \$1.76, but you can make it even money and give me \$1.75."

So the seven quarters were counted out by Captain—of the 66th P. L. F., with a smile of relief, and he emerged to the street, the meeting and lunch for his company completely over.

As a rule the 66th officers do things on a more generous scale.

SEEKING FOR PARDON.

Friends of Maud Lindsay Want to Have Her Released from Prison.

A petition has been in circulation recently asking for the release of Maud Lindsay, who was sentenced to the penitentiary for life, at the St. John circuit in July, 1892, by Judge Tuck.

It will be remembered that the Lindsay woman, during a fight in a house on Walker's wharf, shot a young man named Robert Longon, though she had no malice against him and the whole affair was the result of a drunken row. Longon did not die at once, but was taken to the General Public Hospital where physicians and surgeons operated on him for a number of hours, he being kept under ether. After the operation, the patient collapsed and death ensued. At the trial the point was taken that Longon died rather from the effects of the operation than from the original injury, but this was not proven. It could not be, indeed, from the important fact that the one thing which would have settled the matter, a post mortem of the brain, was not done.

The woman was found guilty of manslaughter, and it is believed the jury would have found her guilty of assault only had such a verdict been allowable. It was supposed she would be sentenced for a few years, but Judge Tuck took another view of the case and gave her the extreme penalty, imprisonment for life. Since her conviction she is reported to have been a model prisoner, and her friends and relatives now think it is time to agitate for her release. It is understood that the jury are all in favor of clemency being extended.

He Was Absent Minded.

Those who are in the secret are laughing over the mistake made by a young society man very recently. He received an invitation to a social event of considerable and the conventional request was made for either an acceptance or a decline. The invitation was accepted and as the gentleman in question stood at his desk, he scrib-

bled off an acceptance on a blank piece of paper, not intending to send this copy but merely writing it in a fit of absentmindedness perhaps. Whatever way it occurred, this copy was received by the lady giving the party, in stead of the usual acceptance, and on the reverse side were a number of office notes and a partly written bill. The gentleman discovered his mistake later on and made ample apology for it but the joke was too good to be kept and now most of his friends know of the affair, greatly to the chagrin of the unfortunate young man.

WILL INVESTIGATE THE CASE.

The Strange Story About the Late Sheriff Morse and his Brother.

BRIDGETOWN, Jan. 23.—A painful accident came to light since the death of Sheriff Morse of Annapolis County. The S. P. C. of Halifax have been asked to intervene in the matter.

The statement made to the S. P. C. authorities is that the father of the deceased sheriff left \$4,000 to be devoted to defraying the costs of the maintenance of the sheriff's two brothers who are deaf and dumb and imbecile. It was the intention of the old gentleman, so it is held, that the money should have been spent in paying the charges for keeping the afflicted brothers in an institution where they would be comfortable. After sheriff Morse died the fact came out that the money had not been so spent, or rather their friends considered that it had not.

The two brothers were found in anything but comfortable circumstances, in the house of the deceased, and the S. P. C., in Halifax were asked to see about the case, and have them properly looked after. The appeal was not made in vain and steps were promptly taken to ameliorate the condition of the unfortunates.

An inquiry will be made regarding the \$4,000 bequeathed for this purpose.

Reviving DeMolay.

That energetic promoter of the higher degrees of Freemasonry, Right Eminent Hon. Robert Marshall, 33°, Provincial Prior, has just installed a new set of officers for Union DeMolay Preceptory of Knights Templars, which has been in a quiescent state for a number of years past. There are some good names among the new officers, including H. D. McLeod, who is at the head of the body, W. H. Thorne, who is next in order, and H. V. Cooper who will be drill instructor. It is probably that Union DeMolay will soon resume its old place as a well known and fully equipped Masonic body.

Must Take the Right Course.

Coroner Berryman was not permitted to address the Municipal Council the other day on the subject of a bill of \$24 for getting a skeleton, which was not that of Horn from Brandy Brook. One of the councillors asked that the coroner be allowed to explain, but the warden shut down on the idea. The theory is that if a man outside of a legislative body wants to be heard, the committee room is the place for him, and a good deal of time would have been saved had this idea always prevailed in St. John.

In a Vein of Humor.

It may be taken for granted that no means fair or foul, will be neglected to secure the election of Sir Charles Tupper in Cape Breton. In view of this, there is a vein of humor in a despatch from Sydney which says "it is feared that this fair county, so proverbial for its purity, will be demoralized with grit boodle." The sad event will cast a deep gloom over the entire community, no doubt.

Not an Unmixed Blessing.

The absence of snows makes the contract of the city to keep the electric railway tracks clean a sure profit. The city gets its money and has no work to do. It would be very much to the advantage of men who want work if there was plenty of shovelling and cleaning to be done. There is plenty of time for snow yet, however, and the chances are there will be some big storms when they do come.

Will Not Not Affect St. John.

The period of court mourning for Prince Henry of Battenburg has been fixed at six weeks, but this will not prevent members of the St. John our hundred from playing hockey in the meantime.

Do not Seal the Envelope.

Correspondents are again reminded that sealing an envelope on which there is only a one-cent stamp makes it liable for letter postage, which has to be paid at this office.

Will Appear Next Week.

Some verses from St. Stephen, by a young girl, were not in time for publication in this issue, but will appear next week.

May Be a Dark Plot.

The proposal to build a railway from Moncton to Fredericton looks like a dark plot to sidetrack St. John in the traffic between the two cities.