

PROGRESS

VOL. XIII., NO. 646.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY DECEMBER 1 1900.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

EVENTS OF CITY LIFE.

A Warmly Contested Prize—Free Seats in St. Luke's—Talk With an Englishman.

There were quite a number of very nice articles offered as prizes for those who should sell the most tickets for Zephra consequently all the children were in a flutter, and a large number took part in the competition. After the tickets had been counted, Miss Daisy Sears was found to have headed the list with 170 tickets sold, while Master Harding came very close second. Upon the announcement of the prize winners, young Harding's father registered a very decided kick and said his boy should have gotten first prize. It is said Mr. Harding had spared no trouble in helping the lad along. There was some talk and much dissatisfaction felt on both sides about the matter, and the friends and relatives of little Miss Sears took up the cudgals strongly for her, the boy's friends doing the same on his side. Manager Averill was much beset, but finally settled the matter and very justly, in favor of the little girl, awarding her the hard-worked-for folding camera, while Master Harding was given the second prize.

Of course the affair caused a good deal of talk and indignation among the "Zephra" crowd, and the daily papers were about to run the story, so interesting had it become to the public, but they forbore and now the matter has quieted down.

It appears that Rector R. P. McKim is going to have considerable opposition in carrying out his idea of everything free in St. Luke's church. The thinking people find that the church financially is going back, since concerts, socials etc, by means of which the ladies used to make up a very neat sum of money for the expenses of the church; have been prohibited by the rector. Mr. McKim's contention is, that pretty nearly everything in connection with the church should be free, which it may be here said is a very good theory, but apparently for the church of today, too much of an ideal. Rev. McKim's latest is in regard to free seats. Now he it known that a large number of the back seats in the church are free, but very seldom filled, and the people think that to do away with family seats would be very unnecessary, besides cutting down that usual income of the church against which no one is grumbling, and of which the treasury is very much in need. The people further contend that they do not wish their boys and girls to be separated in different parts of the building, but want them to be in their own seats with their parents, where they may be made to behave themselves properly, which boys and girls are very apt not to do when left to themselves. Mr. McKim is a very clever and energetic man and has done much good since he came to the city, but his congregation feel that in the matter of seats the rector is carrying his "free" ideas too far.

Mr. Lavers of R. H. Lavers, Limited soap and alkali manufacturers of Liverpool, England, a firm with a long and excellent record was in the city this week and staying at the Royal. An Englishman with that instinct for sport which is a second nature to the race, Mr. Lavers is never happier than when he is trekking big game in the Rockies, or in the jungles of India, and he possesses that commercial skill, and business acumen which has made Britain the first of commercial nations. Mr. Lavers is short and a man of about forty-five years of age. He is a singularly interesting personality, and in half an hour's chat he can take one on a trip round the world, and speak of men and places at every point of the compass. He has served his Queen and Country in the army and navy, and will carry with him to the grave, the wounds he received in a wild rush in the Basuto war. He has prospected in the gold fields of Australia, shot big game in India, South Africa, and the Rockies and filled in his more peaceful and less exciting days in pushing business, and as a keen observer in the principal cities of the world. Mr. Lavers has travelled on all the railways of all the British colonies, Australia, New Zealand, India, South Africa, the Straits Settlements and

other places and he pays the C. P. R. the compliment of far out-distancing them all, in the accommodation and up-to-date class of service to which they treat the passengers. Indeed he says, he has not seen anything in his life to beat them.

In course of conversation Mr. Lavers told of an encounter he had once had with a lion in Africa. He was alone, hunting, when he noticed the lion walking in his direction. He fired, and the king of the forest fell. Mr. Lavers then advanced to see the animal, but the beast in its dying agonies made a leap at him, and gave him a fierce scratch on the forehead, tore his neck, beneath the ear, and broke three of his ribs, before the surprised and terrified man could attempt to defend himself. Recovering his senses immediately Mr. Lavers finished the suffering brute with a bullet, and has now a number of scars to remind him of his narrow escape.

"DEVELOPMENT" AS IT APPEARS.

How the Club of Political Aspirations Fell Short of Its Object.

Since its inauguration, the Development Club has not set the people's teeth on edge. With the formation of the club the public is thoroughly well acquainted. It was then given out that the members were not supposed to have any political favorites. Subsequently a meeting was held when it was decided by vote that the club would support Hon. George E. Foster, the conservative candidate, in opposition to the Hon. Mr. Blair, the nominee of the government party.

More recent events have tended to show that as a body, the Development Club took a very active part in the campaign, much to their discomfiture. It is a matter of ancient history that the worthy president, Mr. Harry McLellan, openly fought against the election of the Hon. Minister of Railways. It has been even whispered that on the night of the return of our Paardeberg heroes, a very large man, in the person of one of the "Developers" went so far in the display of his exuberant spirits that he forgot himself and assaulted a small boy (son of Pilot Wm. Quinn) who dared to lead a crowd of other boys to "Give three cheers for Blair." This is truly a small matter, but it goes to show the bitterness of feeling prevailing at that time.

Another feature which the then widely becoming "Development Club" was to inaugurate, was the redemption of the younger generation; the St. John young man was to be educated in all the finer points of a twentieth century existence. He was to learn to chalk his cue and shoot the ivory billiard ball in a manner that would make him run up a "string" that would render him the envy of his conferees and the rooms are stilled, the sound of the rolling billiard ball is heard not.

About the only "development" so far recorded is the introduction of Prof. Jack Caley, the champion light weight of somewhere who is engaged to impart the mysteries of the "masly art" to the muscularly inclined developers. The professor has quite a contract.

Variety shows of a high class repertoire companies, etc., were to tread the Institute boards, as they did in days of yore, they have failed to appear; no announcements are forthcoming of their intended appearance.

The public are still in the dark as to the intentions of the Developers. Their whole work has been accomplished. They have cast the die and lost the throw. The public has yet to learn of anything really good which they have done that will give them a right to use the name of Development.

KINGS COUNTY RECOUNT.

An Interesting Point for the Court's Decision.

An interesting feature has arisen in the recount in Kings county, which makes it necessary to remove the scene of operations from one court to another.

Judge Wedderburn is as fair an officer as sits upon the bench, but still he differs in opinion upon the counsel of the plaintiff, and the result is that there will be an appeal from his decision regarding the

legality of the ballots.

As there is some misunderstanding as to the nature of the enquiry, PROGRESS may state that under the election law, all the ballots used in the dominion campaign should be printed upon paper supplied by the clerk of the crown in chancery at Ottawa. This paper is specially made and prepared in order to avoid any fraud or duplication and there is what is known as a water line running through it. This water line should appear upon the face of every ballot, and it seems to be the duty of the sheriff to examine each ballot when it comes from the printer, to see that it is



TROOPER ANDERSON.

Whose interesting account of the campaign in South Africa is printed upon the 9th page of this issue.

in every way legal and correct. One of the contentions of the plaintiff, Mr. McIntyre, in this case, is that the ballots used in Kings County did not have this water line running through them. Perhaps there is no intention to claim that there was any fraud, but still it is quite evident, to any thinking person, that the road was quite open to such an end. The very idea of the government in providing water line paper was in some way ignored, and the fact that ballots were used which did not have this distinguishing mark upon them might lead naturally to the belief that ballots were printed upon other paper than that supplied by the government. Then it is equally true that any number of them might have been used. The question is an interesting one, which it is no doubt will be tried out before the courts in order that no such thing should occur in the future.

It does seem unfortunate that in Kings county these post-election differences seem bound to arise. It is well known what has occurred in the past and which party has been accused of perpetrating frauds upon the people. It is therefore regrettable that in this contest there should be any reason for the people to think that their franchise has not been respected and that there has been the slightest chance for defeating in any sense the will of the electorate.

PROGRESS

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PAGE 4.—Editorial, poetry and a budget of other bright matter.

PAGES 5, 6, 7, and 8.—Social items from all over the provinces.

PAGE 9.—Fighting the Boers—W. Earle Anderson, a St. John member of the second contingent, writes an interesting account of the many engagements in South Africa.

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HAPPY NORTH ENDERS.

The Liberal Workers of Old Portland Entertain the Minister of Railways.

It was a pleasant idea for the workers in the North End to assemble after the close of the campaign and honor the gentleman whom they had helped to elect by banquetting him. The toil and worry of the political fight were over and it was eminently proper to enjoy the victory in the happy manner they did on Thursday evening.

The Minister of Railways was the guest of the evening and he was in the best possible form making a speech that was important inasmuch as it was his first public utterance since declaration day and more particularly so since it bore upon the relations of the two great railroads of the continent.

The supper was provided by the ladies of the W. C. T. U. of the North End and it could not have been more bountiful or tempting had it been the work of experienced caterers; The decorations were in perfect taste and the tables reflected credit upon the ability of those who arranged them.

Chairman Henry Hilyard had the minister of railways and Hon. Mr. McKeown upon his right while Senator Ellis and Mr. Thomas McAvity were at his left.

After the supper the adoption of an organization resolution, the presentation of a bouquet of flowers to the guest of the evening and his happy acceptance, passed off in a pleasant way, and the real business of the evening began when the chairman introduced the toast of the evening. The crowd was enthusiastic, and the applause frequent and timely. Mr. Blair was never in better voice, but his language was moderate if decisive, and his references to the honor done him were made in a graceful manner and couched in eloquent terms.

PROGRESS quotes some extracts from his speech, which bear in an important way upon the issue of the campaign in this city.

"The attention of all Canada was concentrated upon the contest in this city. It was an entirely new question which had not previously been treated by political parties. It was a question between the government as represented by the department of railways on the one hand, and the great corporation of the Canadian Pacific railway on the other. It was that which chiefly accentuated the contest, and I am bound to say that in the result you fully realized my expectations. You worked like Trojans, you stood your ground like men."

"I think that no higher tribute could be paid to the sterling manhood of the people of the city and county of St. John than was the result of that fight."

I want to tell you that there is a warmth of feeling all over this country towards you because you demonstrated a fact which I think needed to be demonstrated. You proved that there is no corporation so powerful that it is greater than the people.

I am no enemy of railway corporations. I think I know my own mind, and I know how I feel toward them. For many things they are blamed unjustly. Many things they are expected to do they cannot reasonably do. But they are corporations all the same, and it is needful that they should be kept within proper check, and I want to express my confident opinion tonight that from this time forward they are liable to be kept in proper check.

"I think a lesson might also be justly drawn from the recent contest by a majority of the members of the common council of the city of St. John. I believe that in a large measure they are responsible for the extreme action of the Canadian Pacific. At all events, that company would not have gone to such lengths if it had not been for the active intervention of the common council."

"I do not imagine that it is part of the duty of the Common Council of St. John to project itself into dominion or provincial contests inspired by political partisanship. I question if the people of this constitu-

ency elected any of these gentlemen for that purpose. They would have been well advised to have abstained from encouraging Mr. Shaughnessy from taking this extreme stand toward the government of Canada. I hope the Common Council have learned a useful lesson from what has transpired, and I hope the people of the city of St. John will see to it that the proper duties of the council are hereafter discharged.

I am prepared in the administration of the office which I have the honor to hold to treat the Canadian Pacific in all its interests and upon all questions that may arise as if they had not fought me to the death on the seventh of November. That is my frame of mind. I feel that after winning the victory I gave them all the punishment I wanted to inflict upon them. (Cheers). I want to do with them; and I say it in the most public manner possible whatever I can properly and rightly do in the interests of this country.

I am, willing at all times to negotiate with the Canadian Pacific upon any matter affecting their interests and in a perfectly friendly way. I would go out of my way to meet them in such a spirit; but I am not going to surrender what I have always contended were the vital interests of the Intercolonial, or to recede from the position I have publicly taken.

"I do not much wonder at the attitude which Mr. Shaughnessy was led to take towards the government in connection with this winter port question. He was deceived. I say therefore that I do not blame the Canadian Pacific as much as I blame others nearer home. (Cheers). I am willing to make some allowance for him under these circumstances. There is no reason why the Canadian Pacific and the Intercolonial should not stand in the friendliest relations toward one another. I think we have many interests in common, and we have not necessarily any grounds for antagonism. The field is going to be broad enough, and productive enough to afford business for both. This will certainly be true if the policy of the government is carried out, because we are going to have fifteen years at least in which to carry it to fruition."

After the speech of Mr. Blair there were many pleasant toasts, which were responded to by the members of the legislature present, Mr. McKeown and Mr. Purdy and Mr. Robert E. Armstrong, though the defeated candidate in Charlotte was requested to answer for the House of Commons. He did it in a happy vein and was liberally applauded. The ward workers brought up members of the executive such as Thomas McAvity, Mr. Doody and others and the members of the press spoke in response to the old time toast.

There was plenty of good singing and the 150 earnest liberals, who left the hall at an early hour in the morning, felt thoroughly satisfied with the result of their impromptu reception of the Ministers of Railways.

Regret His Departure From Journalism.

The retirement of Mr. Thomas Dunning from the management of the Telegraph and from newspaper life in the city of St. John is a matter of sincere regret to those who have met him in the field of journalism. Mr. Dunning has for some years occupied a prominent position in the business department of the morning liberal organ and has won the kindly regard, not only of those associated with him in the Telegraph, but of the gentlemen of the press throughout the city. PROGRESS was unable last week to express its appreciation of the fitting manner in which he took his departure from the ranks of the press, but he showed his kindly feeling towards those with whom he had been associated by entertaining them upon his departure. Mr. Dunning goes into the insurance business and this journal is confident there is no one who will not be willing to assist him at any and at all times.