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ITS MANY TROUBLES.

Cushing's Pulp Mill and the Disadvantages it has had to Work Under.

More than an ordinary interest is taken in the affairs of the Cushing pulp mill by the people of St. John because of the encouragement given the promoters of the enterprise by the corporation.

When Mr. George Cushing thought of a pulp mill one of the first difficulties that presented itself was the scarcity of fresh water. The main from Spruce Lake that supplied the people of Carleton was only 12 inches in diameter, old and hardly sufficient to give an adequate quantity to the people of the West Side with the ever increasing demand caused by the extension of winter port facilities.

The story of the pressure brought to bear upon the city to go to large expense and lay another and much larger main to Spruce Lake need not be repeated here. It is sufficient to say when Mr. Cushing found that the necessary capital would be forthcoming he brought sufficient influence to bear to induce the city to guarantee him all the fresh water he required at a cost purely nominal.

The conditions of the formation of the company are simple. A large capitalist interested in the manufacture in England named Capt. Partington agreed to take two thirds of the Capital stock providing the balance was subscribed here. This was easily obtained and a number of prominent and energetic local men became interested in the success of the undertaking.

Mr. Cushing had chosen the site adjacent to his large mill property in Lancaster on Union point where the natural facilities could hardly be excelled. But not depending upon his own judgment he sought that Mr. Beveridge who was then engaged on the North shore in the manufacture of pulp. The report of Mr Beveridge was most favorable and gave such impetus to the undertaking that he was commissioned to make a set of plans for a 20 ton mill. When these were submitted the English capitalist and his advisers on the other side, they did not seem to suit; in fact for some reason or other Mr. Beveridge's report did not seem to please Capt. Partington so he sent a man to look over the site and make an exhaustive report upon the advantages of position, the supply of material and all other conditions necessary to the success of a pulp mill. The gentleman, whose name PROGRESS is not sure of now, did not prove to be the experient was represented to be. He knew nothing of local conditions, found fault with the site and made some of the most amusing objections that could be listened to. He was given every opportunity to get information and returned to England only to make a report against the site and almost everything he saw in connection with the enterprise. The effect upon Capt. Partington was to make him hesitate if not decline to have anything to do with the business. Then it was that the incompetence and unfairness of the report was made manifest to him and he was so impressed with the justice of the representations that he withdrew his refusal and agreed to go ahead.

Up to this time Mr. Cushing had been at much expense promoting the enterprise and he was naturally anxious to see it in operation as soon as possible. The plans were made in England and although they had to be much altered and then sent back for approval the mill was constructed as Capt. Partington wished. Everything was English; the machinery was bought under his direction and from time to time he sent experienced men to oversee the construction, make suggestions and improvements.

Few indeed knew of the difficulties under which the local men worked. The expense of construction was large of course owing to the cost of machinery at that time but the expense of undoing the mistakes made by so-called experts was large too.

Capt. Partington was president of the company and Mr. Joseph Allison vice president while Mr. George Cushing was managing director. Under this arrangement Capt. Partington was to take four fifths of

the output of the mill and pay at the same rate for it as the company could get for the balance of the output on this side.

With a view to using the large quantities of slabs that were produced by the Cushing saw mill and which formerly entered into the manufacture of smaller lumber, the machinery in the mill in part at least was adapted for pulp wood of this size and shape, while the rest was fitted for "sound" wood, as it was not expected the mill would be able to supply sufficient for 50 tons of pulp a day. There was a great advantage Capt. Partington said at the start by using slabs. This part of the tree made better pulp in the first place and in the second was free from knots to say nothing of its proximity to the mill.

It must not be understood that all of this was "refuse" wood. Part of it undoubtedly was, but the large size of the lumber sawn in the mill and the fact that much of it was what is known as "dimension stuff" gave the pulp mill a great advantage.

There was no particular agreement Progress hears between the company and Mr. Cushing the understanding being that the saw mill would supply the pulp mill with all the material possible and of course

be paid at current rates according to the amount of pulp produced. It may be said that the saw mill also supplied the fuel for the furnaces.

The manufacturer of pulp was begun and apart from the difficulties that usually accompany the first efforts of any, enterprise proceeded satisfactorily. Capt Partington was here and looked things over and returned to England apparently satisfied.

Then sometime afterward to the surprise of those acquainted with the start of the mill Mr. Beveridge arrives upon the scene as the representative of Capt. Partington. Then the trouble began. Without considering his first report to Mr. Cushing and his glowing ideas of the possibilities of the site he could see no good in anything now. The price of wood was too high and it was not adapted for a good quality of pulp in his opinion. He made such reports to the other side that sharp correspondence resulted and the recent visit of Capt. Partington was the outcome. Before this however, the vice president, Mr. Allison, and the managing director, Mr. Cushing had retired and Mr. Beveridge was allowed to have sole control.

Mr. Beveridge represented to Capt. Partington that the expenses were altogether too large; that Mr. Cushing was paying too much for coal, for wood and for labor compared with other industries here. These statements were shown to be so contrary to the actual facts that a good deal of feeling was aroused. The price of enough pulp wood to make a ton of pulp is

WHO WILL HE BE ?

The Office of Sheriff and the Many Candidates who are in the Field.

The office of High Sheriff for the City and County of St. John is one of the best in the gift of the local government. Now that it has again become vacant through the lamented death of Mr. Sturdee, much interest manifests itself as upon whom the position will fall.

Like all vacant public offices of course the names mentioned in connection with the place are numerous. Those most prominently mentioned are Hon. Mr. Dunn, Hon. Mr. McKeown, Mr. George Robertson, Mr. John A. Chesley, Mr. Rudman Allan and Dr. J. M. Smith.

It is pretty well understood that neither Mr. Dunn, Mr. McKeown nor Mr. Robertson are applicants, nor would they accept the position if offered, and this is not surprising. No doubt either one of the first two gentlemen could have the office if he desired it. Being members of the government their claims would probably have the most weight. Mr. Dunn's present position of Surveyor General, is a far better and more lucrative office than the Sheriff of St. John. It is not perhaps as sure as the latter, but by the look of things, Mr. Dunn can feel quite certain that the surveyor generalship is not in much danger for sometime to come. Then

Mr. McKeown as a member of the executive is doing well and being yet a young man he may quite naturally feel that politics has far better things in store for him in the future. He would hardly retire from his present bright outlook even to accept the sheriffship of St. John. Mr. Robertson it is said has stated emphatically that he is not in it. He has the building of the Dry Dock on his hands, an undertaking which he intends to carry out and he is determined to accept no position for the present at least.

The names then that the government has to consider, barring of course any dark horse that may creep up, are those of Messrs Chesley, Allan and Smith. The claims of Mr. Chesley can hardly be said to be as strong as the others. Up to the last Dominion election he was known as a conservative and an opponent of the government. The liberals might well think that he has yet to work longer in their ranks before he should be looked after. On the other hand Mr. Allan and Dr. Smith have for years been strong supporters of the Administration and have worked hard in their party's interest. Their claims are certainly very strong. Mr. Allan particularly has fought hard for his party. He was a candidate in one of the local elections, and though his ticket was defeated, there is no doubt his popularity brought considerable strength to it. Besides all of the candidates who ran with Mr. Allan, namely Messrs Trueman, Carleton and Hetherington have been well looked after in the past by being given good offices and so Mr. Allan's friends feel now that that gentleman should be considered. Mr. Allan's appointment would be a popular one irrespective of politics and he would make a good sheriff.

Dr. Smith it is said is urging his claims and has the support of Dr. Pagsley. It is likely that the government will lose no time in filling the position, but until that time arrives, the office will remain one of much interest.

It is learned as PROGRESS goes to print that Mr. R. R. Ritchie has become an applicant for the position of Sheriff. His friends claim that the office should be filled by a lawyer and as Mr. Ritchie possesses the qualification, his chances are considered good.

A SUCCESSFUL SHOW.

The Fair at Moosepath Large and Well Attended.

The fair at Moosepath on Tuesday was a success in every respect. The attendance was good, the exhibits large and well selected and the judging satisfactory.

The excellence of the vegetable exhibits was remarkable considering the season which has been thought so unfavorable. There are plenty of good farmers in St. John county and those who take an interest in all that is best in agriculture were well pleased with the interest shown by the exhibitors in the fair.

There were more cattle than at two or three recent shows of a semi-provincial character; the horses were well worth seeing and there was plenty of speed.

Mr. W. A. Jack who judged the poultry is an enthusiast in that direction and found that some of the men who cultivate large farms find some time to indulge in the henery business. There were splendid specimens of all kinds of poultry and the people seemed to be quite as much interested in them as in the other exhibits.

All in all the directors of the association were to be congratulated upon the success of the fair which was on a larger scale than has been attempted for some time.

The Late Fall

September has been a month of Wednesdays and failures. The former have had nothing to do with the latter, or the latter with the former. They have just so happened that way. The young people of St. John seem to have lots of faith in the City's future in spite of past disasters that is getting translated in having faith in the future.



H. R. H. THE DUCHESS OF CORNWALL AND YORK,