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Royal is the only Baking Powder made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar

## CIVIC AFFAIRS DISCUSSED

(Continued from page one)

in the law itself and in our attitude towards it. In Canada we are far too ready to make laws and far too unwilling to stand by their enforcement. The disrespect for law generally makes it difficult to enforce the laws we have. We are breeding a class of boys and girls who believe that law may be broken with impunity. Personally, I do not believe the Scott Act a good law, but it is law, and I will do what I can to enforce it. Whatever your opinion may be, by the sacred right of majority rule, you have no right to shrink from your duty of standing for the enforcement of all laws. We measure the strength of our country not by laws upon the statute books but by laws enforced. I do not know anything more vicious and weakening than the tacit acceptance of law and a practical denial of its efficiency. I challenge the conscience of the community to put aside all preconceived conceptions of what law should be but whatever it be, let it be enforced.

### FAILURE OF PRESENT SYSTEM.

"The system now in vogue fails because it is too closely connected with local conditions. The City Council will be the victim of the system so long as the system remains. You cannot separate the committee which has to do with law enforcement from unseen influences. Put the best set of men you may get into office and they will be subject to influences which make law hard to enforce.

"With the system which we propose, wherein the control of the police is free from local influences, there is no temptation to non-enforcement of law. If the commission owes no allegiance to any set of men in the community, you have the guarantee that all laws will be reasonably well enforced.

"I had the pleasure of waiting on the present council and urging the acceptance of an independent commission. I believed the council would do what was right; but I have no respect for their judgment if they prefer the present system to that which we propose. If the council is not prepared to accept the principle of an independent commission they cannot grumble if we do not give them our franchise."

REV. DR. W. H. SMITH.

Dr. Smith being called, he said: "It is a good sign of a healthy civic interest to find people meet together to consider questions affecting the life of the city. I wish to deal with three vital questions.

### TESTIMONY OF A DETECTIVE.

First, the question of fact or evidence. What are the actual conditions in the city concerning the administration of justice? Last year certain charges were made that conditions were bad. These were denied before the election. We were told we were slandering the city. After the election enough social vice was unearthed to satisfy the public that the charges were well founded. No investigation was made. During the summer conditions were fast becoming alarming and it was decided to engage a detective to study the conditions. The Halloween affair disclosed such a rotten condition that even although the so-called investigation was behind closed doors the public was satisfied that there was practically no police protection. On account of certain rumors it was decided later to engage a detective or detectives in order to get the facts and thereby be in a position to study actual conditions. A detective was employed during December and January. The report is a sad record. No one can study it without a great sense of shame and sorrow. Here are a few items. There were eleven places regularly engaged in the sale

of intoxicating liquors besides certain drug stores. From one to three bartenders were employed in each of these places. During December 301 persons were counted drunk on the public streets and on the day before Christmas about 100 were counted partially drunk. The lists of persons frequenting the saloons made painful reading but I am pleased to say that these lists do not contain the name of any of the gentlemen opposing the present council. There is much other valuable information which need not be referred to now. I say with great sorrow of heart that instead of slandering the name of this fair city the evils are greater than we suspected. I wish however, to say that we have the facts, we know the conditions and instead of apologizing for what we said last year I wish to reassert the truth of it and to say that I challenge investigation. The present condition of the city is such that every effort ought to be made to remove the shame now resting upon it.

### ATTITUDE OF ADMINISTRATION.

Second, the question of the attitude of the administration to these facts. The council has served the city for a year. It asks for another year with but few changes. It has been doing our work and before renewing our confidence we have a perfect right to examine the work done. This is not an attack on members of the council but a duty every citizen should make. We would be reckless to return men to power without knowing whether they have been trustworthy. The administration has failed to protect the city from the scourge of illegal saloons and as a consequence there has been much suffering and crime. It is idle to blame the chief of police and his men for this condition of affairs. If he has been given instructions and authority, if he has been given the force and machinery to do the work and has not done it the administration is responsible for inefficiency. If he has not been given the necessities for the work the administration is still responsible. The city must hold its representatives responsible. We have nothing to do with the police force but we have with the council. Look at the record. The annual report of the police magistrate for 1912 shows that 76 per cent. of the crime from the city convicted in his court was the direct product of the saloon. If only ten saloons sold on an average 100 drinks per day there would be 1,000 violations of the law. Competent judges would multiply by three and yet for months during last summer there was not one conviction for selling liquors. Citizens may judge of the efficiency of the administration of justice.

### INIQUITOUS LEGISLATION.

"Again the administration has been the means of fastening upon the city a most iniquitous piece of legislation. Two years ago the City Council prepared a bill asking for the secret ballot. When the members of the present council came into power the bill was dropped. Last year the citizens' committee promoted a similar bill. It was submitted to the council, which agreed to support it and ordered the clerk to prepare it for the Legislature. Nothing was further attempted by the council. When, at the last opportunity, the committee had the bill introduced a delegation from the council opposed it and sought to have another substituted. The present law is the result. I call attention to one fact. The council appoints all the scrutineers. In this case seven of the council are candidates and we have the spectacle of these appointing men of their choice. The nine opposition candidates asked that they be represented by one man in each booth and their request was summarily rejected. The bill opposed by the council, pro-

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## STRONG ARGUMENTS

(Continued from page 1)

explain that it was due to the different methods employed in scaling. The ground rent in Ontario and Quebec is \$5 a mile; in New Brunswick it is \$8. His only cause for surprise was that any lumberman in New Brunswick has made a success of his calling, so onerous is the tax upon the industry. A man who watches the logs going down stream today must realize that they are only flag poles compared with logs of many years ago. It was a fact that when lumber was selling at \$10 per thousand there was double the money made in the lumber business than is made today. He did not think the lumber business would ever be as good again in Canada as it has been. He considered that the Nashua River was in its day the best lumber proposition in the Dominion of Canada. He had no hesitation in saying that the best service the government could render the province was to put the lumbering

industry on a sound basis by granting perpetual leases.

PREMIER FLEMMING

Hon. Mr. Fleming in replying to the delegation indulged in some good natured banter at the expense of Mr. Powell whose views in regard to the lumbering industry when he sat in opposition in the Legislature were in marked contrast to the views which he had given expression to on this occasion. The Premier was unkind enough to remark that Mr. Powell was then speaking for the people of Westmorland, while he was now speaking as counsel for the lumbermen. The Premier thought that skill, industry and determination was necessary in order to make a success of any calling.

He said that the government was carefully studying the question under discussion and were determined to secure all available information. They were anxious to bring down a policy that would safeguard the lumbering industry and at the same time do justice to all other interests in the province.

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