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W. K. C. PARLEE, L. C. MACNUTT,
Manager. Editor

DAILY HERALD

TUESDAY, JULY 26, 1904.

CIVIC NEGLECT.

The present city council seems incompetent to handle any business beyond the mere routine, and the city's interests are being steadily neglected. Two instances give point to the above observation and stamp our present civic rulers as unfitted for the duties they have assumed. For a couple of years efforts have been made by property holders in the down town section to secure a proper fire alarm service, but apparently the project is as far from realization as ever. Since the bell of St. Dunstan's church was cut off from the fire alarm there have been no means of awakening the lower end of the city in case of fire. Only the city hall bell and the whistle at the pumping station at the upper end of the city are available for fire alarms and these do not by any means meet the public need. Some night the citizens living in the lower end of the city may awake to find their dwelling on fire or threatened without knowledge of the conflagration until aroused by the presence of the firemen. Last night, for instance, there was an alarm from a St. John street box, but the people living in the vicinity knew nothing of the alarm striking up town and were not aroused until the fire apparatus was galloped to the scene. Happily the alarm was a false one, but it would have been just the same had there been a fire.

Some months ago it was agreed that the best plan for a down town fire alarm was the erection of a bell tower in the jail field, and the council made a move to secure the desired improvement in the fire service, but the plans they had arranged were turned down, perhaps properly so by the city engineer, and no further action has been taken, and in the meantime the city is without the service so much needed. This is pure neglect and want of business capacity on the part of the council and should not be longer tolerated.

Another matter which has simply been toyed with by the council is the proposed improvement in the quality of the water used for domestic purposes. What has the council sought to accomplish on that question? Is there any prospect that the intake pipe will be removed to a more suitable locality or any other measure taken to meet the desire of the citizens?

As in the fire alarm matter the water works question was handed over to the city engineer, who is supposed to be making a survey of the river, for what purpose has never been stated.

If the council is prepared to abdicate its functions and hand over most important interests to one of its officials, it is about time the citizens realized the facts. Are the aldermen afraid to move in such important matters, and are they endeavouring to unload responsibilities which they themselves should assume, or are they convinced, as the taxpayers are, that there is not sufficient business ability and push in the present board of aldermen to carry forward any enterprise beyond the merest items of routine business?

TORY MISREPRESENTATION.

The Sun with glaring disregard for truth, speaking of the meeting held

at Andover by Hon. Messrs. LaBillois and Farris, declares that "as a matter of fact the new highway act was strongly condemned by speakers." The Sun in making that statement stamps itself as a first class prevaricator. The only gentleman who said a word against the new law was a county councillor whose chief criticism was that it led to direct taxation. The meeting was open to any man to speak, and the county councillor mentioned was the only person who uttered a criticism of the new law. The Sun's unfairness with respect to the meetings held by the ministers is shown in the fact that it has not published the reports thereof after agreeing to do so, and especially its suppression of Mr. Fleming's observations commending the government for holding the meetings. Mr. Fleming is the chief opposition lieutenant in the legislature, but he had to look to the government newspapers to see his manly address at Andover, although the Sun had a copy of his speech in its office, but suppressed it. The effort of the Sun to make political capital out of the ministers' meetings is at mean and despicable as its usual course towards its political opponents. Messrs LaBillois and Farris made no effort to turn the meetings to political account and only the Sun's narrow vision discovers anything of the kind in the gatherings. The Sun's efforts to prejudice the government have continued for twenty years, and in its chagrin at its utter lack of influence on the public, it turns to gross misrepresentations and childish criticism.

WARNING TO PARENTS.

Probably the public is tired of hearing about George Gee, who expiated the crime of murder on the scaffold at Woodstock last week, but there is one point in his career which should serve as a warning to parents.

Gee's useless life and his awful end were undoubtedly due to the utter lack of moral training, even of the most ordinary kind. In his home life if he had any, there was evidently little or no effort made to teach him the difference between right and wrong, or the duties which every man owes to his God and to humanity. He developed into manhood not only without moral training, but with contempt for the recognized authority of the law, and seemed to regard its representatives as his enemies. His career of crime did not open with murder, and his progress towards the act for which he forfeited his life was gradual but certain. The generous use of intoxicating liquor aided the unfortunate young man in his downward career, which ended so ignominiously.

Only a few hours before his violent death Gee in conversation with a representative of this paper, spoke of the absence of moral training in his life. He declared that he had learned more of the decencies due from one man to another and his duty to his Creator during the term of his imprisonment than he ever knew before. These he learned from his spiritual advisers, and from books which the Sheriff's daughter had read to him at his cell door. Education he had none, he could not read a word and with difficulty he wrote his own name, and his moral senses had never been awakened nor cultivated by those responsible for his being in the world.

The manner of this young man's

life and death appeals with awful warning to parents upon whom is thrust the responsibility of properly training their children in moral as well as material things. That there was good stuff in young Gee, is proved by the heroism with which he met his fate. It is such men as he who march to the cannon's mouth without fear of death, and who do other deeds of valor and courage. The possibilities of such a life as Gee's, had he been born and reared in proper environments, can scarcely be estimated, but the poor fellow never had a start, and he fell a victim to the neglect of others.

While parents are expected to equip their children with all possible means for combating the material things of life, to furnish them with education within reach and to otherwise provide them for the business of life, there should not be a moment's neglect of the moral side, for a strong body and a well developed intellect are small blessings compared with a strong moral fibre to resist temptations and blandishments of the world. George Gee might today be occupying a position of honor and usefulness in the world, instead of filling a murderer's grave, had he been trained in a school which respected God and man, and the statutory as well as the moral laws.

Tories sneer at the department of labor under Sir Wm. Mulock's direction at Ottawa, but it accomplishes good work and is a credit to the minister and the government. The settlement of the Valleyfield and Sydney strikes were due to the good offices of Sir Wm. Mulock, through his deputy Mr. McKenzie.

The Tory leavetaking of Lord Donald takes place at Ottawa tonight, and the final demonstration in his honor will be at Montreal. Two thirds of the people of Canada will not be represented in these pious vows, which have been planned more for political effect than for any particular love for the departing lord.

Honored Scholes.

Toronto, July 26—Champion oarsman Scholes, who won the Diamond Sculls at Henley, received a magnificent public reception here on his return from Henley. A handsome cabinet of silver was presented to him by the city council and a diamond studded medal was given him by the Toronto base ball club.

Royal Palace Tea.

G. T. Whelpley has just received another large import order of Royal Palace Tea in pound and half pound packets 40 cents per lb.—d.

To-day.

More new goods were opened today at Edgecombe's, including new black saten skirts, very stylish.—d.

The Harm Noise Does.

Noise is an undoubted factor in impairing the tone of the nerve centres. Whether we are conscious of it or not, it hurts the brain and has a deafening, dazing, bewildering effect on the mental processes. It tires the brain and tends to produce cerebral hyperaemia. To live in a noisy atmosphere is to shorten one's days. Irritability, neurasthenia, insomnia, are common effects. The tympanum or drum membrane of the ear is injured, the circulation of the cerebro spinal fluid is disturbed and the nerve cells themselves suffer as though subjected to mechanical violence.

- Lifebuoy Soap—disinfectant—is strongly recommended by the medical profession as a safeguard against infectious diseases.

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