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The Daily Herald.

THE WEATHER.
Fresh to strong variable winds, sleet and rain, clearing on Friday with westerly winds.

VOL XII

FREDERICTON, N. B., FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1907

NO. 62

E. A. O'Brien & Co

SPECIAL SALE TO-MORROW

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PEOPLE'S DRUGGIST - opp. City Hall.
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"Our BAKING POWDER is all goodness. Made from pure Cream of Tartar, it contains not a grain, not an atom of any harmful ingredient. It is the cheapest of all for the same quantity will go farther than advertised brands. 40c. per full pound.

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Don't borrow time from your neighbors. The old clock that has stopped has probably served its time.
We have a full line of Kitchen, Dining Room and Parlor Clocks, also Nickel Alarm Clocks, from \$1.25 up.

F. E. BLACKMER

Opp. Normal School

Fredericton, N.B.

DR. STOCKTON DEAD.

Conservative M. P. for St. John City and County Passed Away this Morning at an Ottawa Hospital.

LONG AND PROMINENT PUBLIC CAREER OF THE DECEASED GENTLEMAN

Ottawa, March 15.—(Special)—Dr. Alfred Augustus Stockton, M. P. St. John died at the Water street hospital at 6.20 this morning.

Deceased was taken ill over four weeks ago, and taken to the hospital where he has been ever since. Some weeks ago a Boston doctor was sent for to operate on him, but this at the time was decided unnecessary. The immediate cause of his death was acute pleurisy.

His daughter was with him at the time of his death and Mrs. Stockton arrived from St. John today.

This is the eighth death among parliamentarians since the present session opened.

St. John, March 15.—(Special)—The city was stunned this morning by the news of the death of Dr. A. A. Stockton, M. P.

General surprise is expressed as reports up to a day or two ago indicated that Dr. Stockton was better.

TRIBUTES TO HIS MEMORY

Ottawa, March 15.—(Special)—The death of Dr. Stockton, M. P. has caused a feeling of great sorrow among his colleagues in parliament. Mr. G. W. Fowle, M. P. for Kings Albert, said: "I have known Dr. Stockton for many years and admired him for his great legal knowledge and his parliamentary skill and his talent as a debater, as well as for his personal worth. The deceased was a staunch friend and had no enemies."

Mr. G. W. Ganong, M. P. for Kings Charlotte, said: "I cannot tell you how sorry I am to learn of the death of Dr. Stockton. We were acquainted for many years, and were fast friends. His death is a great loss to parliament and especially to St. John, which has always been his first consideration. He gave to his constituents the best service that was in him, and he will be missed by them as well as by a host of friends and admirers."

Dr. Daniel M. P. for the city of St. John said: "In the death of Dr. A. A. Stockton, St. John loses one of its best-known and most respected citizens, and the parliament of Canada one of its ablest members. He was a long political career in the provincial arena. He was a man of strong convictions and of high right, and always had the courage of his convictions, and enough force of character and expression to impress his views on his colleagues, and the country. As a representative of the people he stood high in the estimation of his constituents and in addition, earned their affection and regard to a very large degree."

"No one in New Brunswick ever attained greater power and impressive eloquence on the platform, and in my opinion he stood in this respect on the very topmost rung of the ladder. On his advent to parliament he at once took a foremost rank, and earned for himself the reputation of being one of its foremost debaters, and one of its most able members."

"It will be a cause of satisfaction to his relatives as well as to his friends and constituents to know that Dr. Stockton, earned for himself not only a high place for ability but also a very warm place in the hearts of his colleagues on both sides of the house."

During his illness I have been touched with the many expressions of sympathy and the sincere interest manifested in his condition by the members generally. A few days ago His Excellency the Governor General enquired personally of his condition, and was anxious to know if he could call and see him. He also intimated to me the high feeling of admiration and respect entertained for my colleague who is a loss to his constituents to parliament and to the country for he was a man of clean thought and of clean politics."

Mr. Carvell, Liberal M. P. for Carleton, N. B., said he knew Dr. Stockton intimately. "He was a hard hitter, but a fair fighter, and I consider that his death is a great loss to the province."

PREMIER PUGSEY'S TRIBUTE.

Premier Pugsey is still suffering today from a severe cold and heard the news of Dr. Stockton's death at his room in the Queen hotel.

Speaking afterwards to the Herald he said:

"I must say how terribly shocked I am to hear of the death of Dr.

Stockton. We have been warm personal friends for about thirty years. Coming as we did from the county of Kings, our relations were always very intimate and naturally from the commencement of our professional careers in St. John we were thrown very much together.

"I have been frequently associated with him in appeal cases, sometimes on the same side but more often we were opposed, and I always admired his great ability and his desire to bring out all the facts in a case as well as his great fairness."

"For some years we were in the legislature together, and during the early part of our legislative career we were both supporters of Hon. Mr. Blair. When Dr. Stockton withdrew his allegiance to Blair in 1889 it in no way disturbed our personal friendship."

Dr. Stockton was a man of the most kindly disposition and possessed in an eminent degree the highest quality of statesmanship.

DISTINGUISHED CAREER.

The late Alfred Augustus Stockton, K. C., D. C., LL. M., M. P., was born at Studholm, King's Co., N. B. Nov. 2, 1842 and was therefore sixty-four years old. He was the eldest son of the late William A. Stockton and his wife Sarah Olmfield, a native of Cumberland Co., N. S. He was educated at Mount Allison University, Sackville, graduating B. A. in 1864, M. A. in 1867 and D. C. L. in 1884. He took the law course at Victoria University, Coburg, Ontario, and received the LL. B. degree in 1867 and D. C. L. in 1884. He was called to the bar of New Brunswick in 1868 and practised in St. John a number of years in partnership with his brother R. O. Stockton. Deceased obtained great prominence at the bar as a writer as well as a lecturer on legal subjects, and was a recognized authority on constitutional law. He was created a Q. C. in 1891 and is the author of a treatise on admiralty law.

He entered political life as a Liberal member of the legislative assembly for St. John city in 1883 being elected by acclamation in a by-election. He succeeded to the late Hon. B. J. Ritchie's appointment as police magistrate of St. John in 1884. He was a supporter of the Blair government until 1889 when he and his colleague Dr. Alward resigned their seats and went into opposition to the government because of the appointment of Dr. Ritchie as police magistrate. Both gentlemen were re-elected and Dr. Stockton held his seat in the legislature until defeated at the polls in St. John in the general election of 1899, having in the meantime affiliated himself with the Conservative party. He was leader of the opposition in the assembly from 1892 until his defeat in 1899.

In 1890 he ran for the house of commons in St. John and was defeated, but was elected to that body in 1901, and has taken a prominent part in its business and debates. Some years ago Dr. Stockton's life was in great danger but a surgical operation restored him to a fair measure of health yet he never afterwards enjoyed his former physical vigor. Within the past few months his friends have noticed his falling health and for the past few weeks he had been in hospital at Ottawa with little hope of recovery and the announcement of his death was not unexpected.

In religion Dr. Stockton was a Methodist, and an active supporter of that church. He was a strong temperance and moral reformer and was much sought as a platform speaker in church and temperance circles.

His wife who survives him was formerly Miss Pickard of Sackville, daughter of the late Rev. H. Pickard D. D., a prominent Methodist clergyman. Dr. Stockton was a prominent stockholder in the New Brunswick Telephone Co. was vice president for some years and succeeded to the presidency of the company a few weeks ago on the death of Hon. J. G. Blair. He was a prominent member of the New Brunswick Historical Society at St. John of the Masonic Order and of other organizations of a public character. He leaves several sons and daughters.

A weak solution of soda will revive the color in a dusty carpet.

CITY ASSESSMENT BILL.

Representatives of Religious Bodies Heard in Opposition to it.

The much talked of Fredericton assessment bill was under fire before the municipalities committee of the legislature yesterday morning. The sections relating to the taxing of church lands and insurance companies were considered, and it was announced that the fixed income men would be given a hearing on Monday morning. The delegates at today's meeting were Rev. Father Carney and Mr. Patrick Farrell, representing St. Dunstan's Church, Rev. Canon Cowie, and Mr. Henry, representing St. Ann's Church, City Clerk McCready, Ald. Scott, J. H. Barry, E. R. Machum, W. A. Gibson and others.

REV. FATHER CARNEY.

Rev. Father Carney, who was the first speaker, said he appeared with Mr. Patrick Farrell on behalf of the Roman Catholics of Fredericton. They represented about 1500 people or one-fifth of the population of the city. The bill was prepared by a tax commission composed of Messrs. T. C. Allen, A. A. Stirling and John Palmer, all well known citizens. He, the speaker, had been given a hearing by the commission, and gave them to understand that, knowing their standing in the community, he was prepared to stand by any decision they might arrive at. He would not object to taxing property of the church that yielded a revenue. The city council had afterwards struck out an exemption clause relating to parsonages, bouses, and it was this that he objected to. The motion to strike out parsonage houses had passed the council by a vote of 6 to 4. At the time he felt that the matter had not received fair consideration at the hands of the committee. Ald. Kelly, who had voted in the majority, had recently admitted to the speaker that when he gave the vote he did not know what he was doing. Had he voted the other way it would have been a different matter.

He had voted against striking out the clause. Property owned by the crown was exempted under the bill, and he held that property owned for the home of a priest should be treated as such. He claimed that the Christian ministers, by preaching for law and order, saved considerable expense to the community. In the five years he had labored in Fredericton he had never seen a church applied with a serious crime. It is true that some had been fined in the police court for violating the Scott Act, but he had always taken a strong stand on behalf of temperance. By the works of charity, which the Christian denominations had carried on, the work of the city was never lessened. For two years past not one of his people had been an inmate of the almshouse; this was because of the large amount his church spent in charity. The past year the church had expended nearly \$1000 for this work. People would accept assistance from the church, but were loath to go to the almshouse. What he had said about the church applied with equal force to the other churches of the community. If his church was taxed on its property it would deprive them of about \$100 a year, which was now expended in works of mercy. Other features of the bill were acceptable to the Catholic community. They were perfectly willing to see property that yielded a revenue taxed. He had no objection to the chaplain of the legislature, but if the committee would replace the clause struck out by the council, he could promise that he would not forget them.

DR. HENRY'S VIEW.

Dr. Henry who appeared for the corporation of Christ church next addressed the committee. He said that religious bodies had never been taxed in the city of Fredericton. The position of his church was somewhat different from other religious institutions. In 1810 the crown gave to the church certain lands to be used for church purposes. It had been said that because the land was given to them they should be taxed upon it. He mentioned that there were lands in the city, which had originally been granted to private parties, and the university also held such lands. The old burial ground had been originally granted to the church of England but was now used by the citizens generally. He could not find in the records where the church had ever received any money for it. The globe lands were located in the upper part of the city and had always been rented at a very low figure and the church had not sought to enrich itself by reason of such ownership.

Dr. Henry here quoted from the books of the church to show that the rentals derived from their lands were very moderate, in comparison with lands leased by private parties. He claimed that the leases had been made some years ago, and were falling due year by year. He went on to show that leases which had fallen due within the past three years, had been renewed at a fair and reasonable rental. For comparison he pointed out that Miss Schleyer for three lots on Charlotte street paid the Campbell estate \$50 per year, while Mr. G. A. Cliff paid for a church a rental of \$23 for three lots

on King street. Mrs. Coburn paid the Campbell estate \$35 for a lot on Westmorland street while Albert Evans paid \$15 for the lot on which Windsor Hall now stands. The Howard & Crangle estate paid a rental of \$100 for a lot on the corner of Queen and Carleton streets, while the Fisher property at the corner of Queen and York streets paid a ground rent of \$600. The doctor pointed out that the leases now paid taxes on the church property amounting to about \$200 per annum. The total income from the property was \$2000 per year. The church only asked to be placed on the same footing as other land owners. He did not want the church parsonage clause struck from the bill. The bill was satisfactory to the church when it left to the hands of the commission, but the council had added an arbitrary clause to the section dealing with church lands, which was objectionable. He went on to say that the leases were for a period of twenty-one years, and there was no covenant to compel the lessees to pay the taxes.

REV. CANON COWIE.

Ald. Scott said that he had recognized the service rendered by the churches to the poor of the city, and he endorsed what had been said on this point by Rev. Father Carney. He spoke of the grant to the church in 1810, and explained that it had been made because of the fact that those in the church of that day had sacrificed everything for King and country. St. Ann's church was not a wealthy one and did a great deal of work for the poor. His salary last year was only \$1200 which was not a large amount. The church annually raised about \$2000 which was used for other purposes, such as charitable work. The lessees of the land were not wealthy, and if the church disposed of the land it would be a severe blow to them. He wanted the bill to pass as it had left the hands of the commission. The church could not go into the real estate business and buy out the tenants, as they had not the time nor the means. He hoped that the committee would deal fairly with the church in the matter.

Ald. Scott said that he was opposed to the position taken by the previous speakers in regard to the bill, but was not prepared to address the committee at the present time.

Mr. J. H. Barry, K. C., who appeared on behalf of certain real estate owners, was promised an opportunity to appear before the committee at a later stage.

THE INSURANCE TAX.

Mr. E. R. Machum was heard in opposition to the sections of the bill relating to life insurance companies. He endorsed what Rev. Father Carney had said in reference to churches, and maintained that life insurance companies stood next in order in the benefits they conferred upon mankind. He quoted a number of authorities to show that insurance should be fostered by the state, and any taxes imposed should not come out of the companies but out of the policy holders. If the bill became law, it would mean that insurance companies would be taxed \$2 on each \$1000 of insurance, although he admitted that policies now in force would not be affected. He spoke of the heavy tax now imposed in Canada on insurance companies. They paid a Dominion tax and a tax for doing business in all the provinces of Canada. Last year the rate was 1.02 on the premium income. He did not approve of the method proposed for taxing insurance companies in Fredericton and he considered the rate exorbitant. He quoted figures to show the proportion of a premium that went to mortality and reserve purposes.

Hon. Mr. Hill pointed out that the companies were able to pay very liberal commissions to agents. He thought there were too many companies.

Mr. Machum replied that that was a matter of opinion. He did not think there were enough agents for all the people who ought to have insurance. If similar taxation such as proposed by the bill, is levied by other municipalities it will soon become a very serious matter for insurance companies. The rate to be levied by Fredericton, if the bill became law, would be greater than that levied in any other municipality in Canada. The minimum rate of forty dollars to be taxed on companies is to his mind very unjust. It will mean 8 or 10 per cent on some of the companies. There is no comparison with fire companies, as they receive benefit from police and fire protection. He thought the discrimination was made because the fire companies could get back at the city while life insurance companies could not. He did not think that there was any need of a minimum rate but if one was adopted it should be fixed at a more reasonable rate. He thought of Fredericton taxed companies at the same rates as St. John in proportion

tion to population there would be no cause for complaint. Some of the money received by Fredericton agency was from parties residing in the country, and surely the city did not propose to tax that. He thought that the bill should be made to read that the tax was only to apply to premiums collected in from residents of the city.

In reply to Mr. Hazen Mr. Machum said that Fredericton and St. John were the only cities in the province that taxed insurance companies. They paid a license fee in Halifax and Sydney.

In Woodstock they rendered a tax bill, but were unable to collect it. Mr. McCready said that the fixed income men had arranged for a hearing on Saturday morning.

Chairman Allen said he did not think the income men could be heard before Monday morning.

The Fredericton debenture bill was passed after which the committee adjourned.

THE STOCK MARKET.

Slump Still Continues but some Issues are Steadier.

Montreal, March 15.—(Special).—Liquidation in stocks continued in heavy volume again today and most of the market went lower.

There seemed to be some support in some issues, however, which were steadier, and some were helped by the improved level in Wall Street around the opening.

Pressure to sell was in evidence, however, in a number of issues.

Dominion Iron was firmer and so was Twin City.

Stocks which fell were: Montreal Power, 81 1/2.

Mackay, 63 1/2.

Toledo, 25.

Toronto Railway, 100 1/2.

Dominion Iron, 181 1/2 to 191.

Nova Scotia Steel, 68 1/2.

Pd., 49 1/2.

Bonds, 76.

DEAD NUMBER 129!

Toulon, March 14.—The efforts to recover the bodies of those killed by the explosion on board the French battleship Iena here yesterday, which have been continued with energy for twenty-four hours, have not yet resulted in definitely fixing the number of casualties. But after the last roll call Wednesday night there were still unaccounted for eight officers and 110 men. There is little doubt that all these missing men perished.

The roll call was applied only to the crew of the Iena, but as it is believed that some twelve or fifteen arsenal hands were engaged on board the battleship at the time of the explosion, it is feared that the total number of dead will reach 120. In this belief the naval hospital here was instructed tonight to prepare mortuary space for 120 bodies.

Minister of Marine Thomson made a second visit to the Iena late today, after the drydock had been emptied of water, and made a careful examination of every part of the battleship that was accessible. The interior showed planking and the partitions of the battleship show signs of having been subjected to enormous pressure. In many cases they are bulged out or indented. The gap in the side of the vessel acted as a safety valve for the vast volume of gas generated by the burning powder, without which the explosion would have had even more disastrous results.

Fifty bodies were recovered during the day but only twelve of them could be recognized. The remainder were formless masses of charred flesh.

Two of the wounded died in the hospital this evening and there are five others who are not expected to live till morning.

UPPER MAUGERVILLE

March 14.—Mr. George F. Hall's is recovering from an attack of the grippe.

Mr. A. A. Treadwell and Mr. A. L. Treadwell who have been laid up with grip are able to be around again.

The little daughter of Rev Mr. C. W. Sables is recovering from the typhoid fever.

Rev Mr. Sables is holding a series of revival services, at the Upper Maugerville Baptist Church.

Minister—So you go to school, do you, Bobby?
Bobby—Yes, sir.
"Let me hear you spell 'bread'."
Bobby—B-r-e-a-d.
"The dictionary spells it with an 'a'." Bobby?
"Yes, sir; but you didn't ask me how the dictionary spells it; you asked me how I spell it."—Tit-Bits.