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DAILY HERALD

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 1908.

DOMINION EXHIBITION GRANT.

When the St. John Globe expresses the belief that St. John is the only city in New Brunswick capable of conducting a Dominion exhibition, it gives utterance to the usual breadth of view for which the people of that city are notable. It is a fact that the last two exhibitions held in Fredericton far surpassed those of St. John in recent years, and this city is capable of even greater effort than that which commanded such signal success on former occasions.

With some additions to its buildings at the exhibition grounds, Fredericton can handle a Dominion show with a surety of making it what it ought to be. This city is more centrally situated than either St. John or Moncton. It has railway connection with all parts of the province, and more, it has the men who know how to make an exhibition a success financially and in every other way.

St. John has no certainty of being able to retain possession of its present exhibition buildings, which are situated on militia department property, that may be required any day for the erection of armories, and it is not likely the city is prepared to erect new buildings in time for next year's show.

Moncton has no buildings at all, but some of its people have made the rather startling proposition that the local government should be asked to stand the expenses of such erections.

The representative delegation which goes to Ottawa from this city will be able to present very strong reasons why the Dominion grant should come to Fredericton next year, and the opportunity for thus early pressing the question on the attention of the government, arranged through the activity and public spirit of Mr. W. T. Whitehead is one which will be taken full advantage of, with, it is hoped, satisfactory results.

CURRENT COMMENT

The Scott Act vs. License contest is at white heat, and there will be no cooling off until the polls close Thursday evening.

The effect of the Supreme court's decision in the St. John Liquor License question is to reduce the number of licenses to be issued in that city from 75 to 63.

Mr. Hazen's dismissals from public office are largely among the laboring men, which should arouse a remonstrance from Mr. W. F. Hatheway, M. P. P., an alleged champion of labor.

It is to be hoped that the York municipal council's sudden awakening in favor of exhibition grants, will be permanent, and that when the Fredericton exhibition management apply to the council next year for a grant they will not be turned down as on former occasions.

Hon. Dr. Pugsley was banqueted by the Montreal Reform club Saturday evening, and made an eloquent and effective speech on public questions, which we shall reproduce later. The New Brunswick Minister was given a very cordial reception by the large number of distinguished guests present at the gathering.

The British navy has sustained two serious losses within a few weeks. The loss of the torpedo boat destroyer Tiger, in collision with a cruiser is still fresh in the public mind, and now comes news of the cruiser Gladiator, being rammed and sunk by an ocean liner while at anchor off the Isle of Wight. The accident occurred during a snow storm, and unfortunately, as in the Tiger's case, was attended with serious loss of life.

It is settled that Mr. Donald Morrison of Northumberland, is to be speaker of the new legislature, and that the address will be moved by Dr. MacInerney of St. John, and seconded by Mr. Sproul of Kings. Mr. Morrison was not after a portfolio in the government, but failed to land one, and the speakership is given him to salve his wounded feelings. Mr. Clarke was refused a cabinet position and also failed to secure the speakership. He will find in Mr. Pinder a companion in misery.

OPERA HOUSE MEETING.

Rev. Dr. McLeod and Prof. McDonald Strongly Uphold the Scott Act.

The mass temperance meeting at the Opera House last evening had a large audience and was of more than usual interest. Chancellor Jones of the U. N. B. occupied the chair and the speakers were Dr. Stewart MacDonald, professor of economics at the U. N. B. and Rev. Dr. McLeod. DR. MACDONALD.

Dr. MacDonald spoke for about half an hour in an entertaining manner and was listened to with much attention. He announced that he was not a teetotaler, and up to with in a very short time ago he had been in favor of license as against the Scott Act. He had done a lot of hard thinking on the question and finally had arrived at the conclusion that the Scott Act was preferable to license. He quoted Blackstone's definition of law, and discussed at some length the personal liberty argument put forward by license advocates. He did not think that the liquor traffic could be curtailed by giving it a place alongside of the manufacturing establishments, stores, schools and churches. By voting for the Scott Act the people put themselves on record as favoring the abolition of the saloon, by voting for license they go on record as favoring the saloon. He quoted from the Review of Reviews to show that the saloon controlled the politicians in many of the large cities of the United States a condition of affairs that was not conducive to good government. He had been opposed to the Scott Act because he did not consider it an ideal law, but he was satisfied now that license did not contain a fulfillment of ideals by any means.

FRED LAFOREST DEAD.

Well Known Edmundston Barrister Passed Away After Long Illness.

News was received here this morning of the death at Edmundston of Mr. Frederick LaForest, the well known barrister of that place. He had been a sufferer from lung trouble for several years, and news of the fatal termination of his illness was not a matter of surprise.

The deceased gentleman was born in this city being a son of the late Mr. Andrew LaForest, who for many years carried on a tinsmith business. He received his education here and studied law with the firm of J. A. and W. VaaWart, being admitted to the bar in October, 1887. Soon afterwards he removed to Edmundston and entered upon the practice of his profession. He was a lawyer of more than ordinary ability, and was not long in establishing a large and lucrative practice.

He made his debut in the political arena in 1896 when he unsuccessfully opposed Hon. John Costigan in the general election of that year for the Federal parliament. In 1899 he contested Madawaska for the Legislature and was elected, and sat in the House until the general election of 1903, when he was defeated. He was a fluent speaker and took an active part in the proceedings of the House.

The late Mr. LaForest had many warm friends in different parts of the province who will be sorry to learn of his demise. He was about forty years of age and is survived by a widow and family of four children. He also leaves three brothers, one of whom is Mr. A. N. LaForest, of this city, and two sisters. Dr. LaForest, who resides in Montreal, is another brother.

SHOCKINGLY SUDDEN.

Mrs. Geo. W. Brown, Sister-in-law of Inspector Brown, Dropped Dead Last Night.

About eight o'clock last evening at Southampton as Mrs. George Brown was entering her daughter's home after church she fell dead.

It is supposed heart disease was the cause, though no one ever suspected her of having a weak heart. She has been greatly worried for a year back over a law-suit with the man to whom she sold her home. She was of a nervous temperament, and has frequently told her friends that she would fret and worry over the matter till two o'clock in the morning. Her friends think that this hastened her end.

She was an exceptionally fine woman, and her friends number many in this city, who will hear, with sincere sorrow, of her very sudden demise.

She was a sister-in-law of Inspector Brown, who was notified by telephone immediately. He leaves by train in the morning to attend the funeral on Wednesday.

Mr. Brown, who is a widow, leaves one daughter, Mrs. J. Frank Grant, and one son, Arthur, now residing in the state of Maine.

WOODSTOCK FIRE

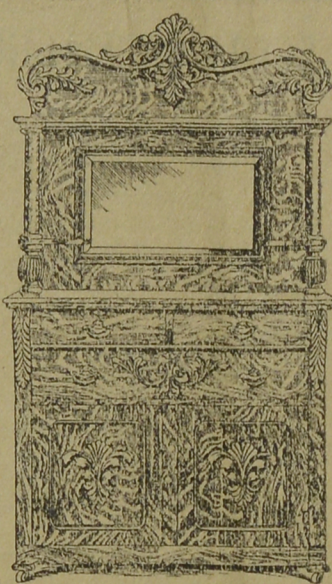
Early Morning Blaze Destroyed \$20,000 Worth of Property.

WOODSTOCK, April 27.—About \$20,000 damage was done by a fire which broke out here a little after midnight in the two story building in Main street, near the bridge, owned by J. N. W. Winslow. The upper part was unoccupied except for a part which was used as a dwelling by Fred De Witt.

The ground floor was occupied by the following firms: H. C. Moore, Harniss Co., Ltd.; W. H. Everett, book store; C. B. Snow, groceries, and Harry Faulkner, tinsmith. The

building was not completely destroyed but was considerably damaged. The roof was burned off. Mr. Everett was probably the heaviest loser. It is said he carried a stock worth \$20,000 with only \$2,500

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LICENSE VS. SCOTT ACT

To the Editor of the Herald:

Sir:—The Scott Act Committee have been trying to hold up St. John as a bright example of the evil effects of the license system and have quoted some statistics of the number of arrests for drunkenness in that city. The writer of the Scott Act letter has been careful to select the years so as to be able to show an increase. He states that there were 763 arrests for drunkenness in St. John in 1903 and that they had increased to 924 in 1906. This he calls the figures for 1903 are wrong, as will be seen by reference to the report of Chief of Police. The number of arrests for drunkenness in St. John in 1903 was 579 or 116 more than the Scott Act writer states so that the alarming increase in three years only amounted to 45 arrests. But the Scott Act writer is careful to conceal the fact that the number of arrests for drunkenness in St. John in 1899 was 400; in 1892 they were 914 and in 1893 they were 947. Let this Scott Act writer go back to the year 1878 and he will find that there were 1448 arrests for drunkenness in St. John in that year and 1219 in 1877. These last figures apply to old St. John before its union with Portland when the city was little more than one-half its present

size. In 1888 the number of arrests in old St. John for drunkenness fell to 340 and that under a license law, a decline of 1,108 in ten years of license. After the union with Portland, a city of nearly 20,000 inhabitants in 1889 the arrests of course increased. In 1889 they numbered 739, in 1893 so that there was an actual decrease in the number of arrests for drunkenness in St. John between 1893 and 1906 under licenses. In 1901 the number of arrests fell to 693, a decline of 254 from the figures of 1893 and that under the present license law. The truth of the matter is that the number of arrests is not a safe guide for they depend very much on whether a policeman happens to be around. In this city last Saturday week there was a free fight going on on Queen Street for about fifteen minutes but no policemen were near and no arrests were made. Yet that fact would not show that Fredericton was free from disorder on that day. When it is considered that St. John is a city of 50,000 inhabitants, a great and growing port with a foreign trade of \$30,000,000 a year, and with hundreds of sailors in it all the year round, it must be admitted that the amount of drunkenness in that city under license is very small.

LICENSE COMMITTEE.

insurance. At a rough estimate the Moore harness company's loss is between \$1,000 and \$1,200, covered by insurance. Mr. Faulkner also had a small loss covered by insurance. Mr. Snow saved some stock.

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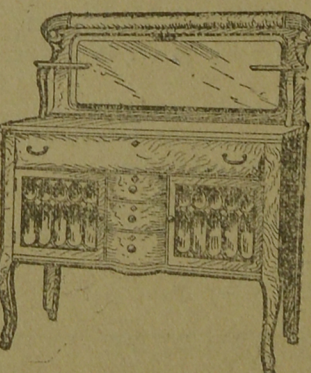


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