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DAILY HERALD

TUESDAY, JULY 14, 1908

THE NEW STATION

It developed during the discussion in parliament on the vote of \$10,000 for a new intercolonial railway station in Fredericton that this amount is only a starter, and that it is intended that \$60,000 in all will eventually be appropriated for the work, and probably more before the new erection and its necessary accompaniments in the way of yard, sidings, etc., are completed.

This information was furnished by Hon. Mr. Graham, the Minister of Railways, to whom the citizens of Fredericton will be disposed to extend felicitations on the energy with which he has taken hold of the project.

It will be observed that Mr. O. S. Crockett in his graft organ claims credit for himself in starting the new station idea, but long before he butted in, the matter had been taken up and discussed with the Minister of Railways, first privately by Mr. Whitehead, and later at a conference which members of the Board of Trade, with Mr. Whitehead and Senator Thompson had with Mr. Graham in this city last autumn.

Although Mr. Crockett was in the city at that time and was aware of the visit of the Minister and his intention to meet the local delegation, he did not put in an appearance at the conference, and hence had no part in the earliest movement to secure a new station. However, with his usual bumptiousness, he steps in later and seeks to take credit for moving the railway authorities to action in the matter, but the public understands the situation, and will not be slow to extend to Mr. Whitehead and the board of trade consideration for the successful outcome of their efforts to secure a much needed public work, nor will they fail to appreciate the material aid Mr. Whitehead and his co-workers received from Dr. Pugsley, New Brunswick's able representative in the government.

A SETTLEMENT DESIRABLE

The police force of Fredericton, like Mahomet's coffin, appears to be suspended between Heaven and earth.

Its members appear to have no official status, as the law requires their appointment to be approved by the council, and what perhaps is worse from the standpoint of the commission's appointees, there is no provision for their salaries.

The council and the commission are apparently as far from agreement as ever. The majority of the council do not want five policemen, and they are opposed to an increase in salaries, while the commission insists that the city shall be burdened with an increased force, and an addition of \$1,150 a year to the expenditure.

The council quite freely expressed its opinion in the matter in open meeting, and bowled out the commission's recommendations a second time, and it is the commission's next move.

The matter must be adjusted in some way very soon, else Fredericton will become a laughing stock for the outside public.

It is certainly unwarranted for the commission to further attempt to force on the taxpayers conditions that they do not desire, and which their representatives in the council have declared they will not approve. There should be a middle course somewhere upon which the council and the commissioners should agree and put an end to the present deadlock which is certainly undesirable and unseemly.

The commission has concluded that they made a mistake in one of their selections for the force, he has been dismissed, the force now consists of only four members, and if the commission makes no new appointment, a basis of agreement may soon be reached with the council, but whether with the force as at present constituted is another matter, in which the aldermen may dissent.

It seems that a conference of the council and the commissioners to reach an armistice and joint action in the matter would be the wisest course under the present circumstances.

CURRENT COMMENT

There does not seem to be any doubt that if Mr. James Robinson, ex-M.P., had gone into the Northumberland-Toronto convention, he could have secured the nomination for parliament, but he was not looking for another defeat at the polls. That is reserved for Mr. Donald Morrison, who was really the second choice of the convention.

Looking over the list of school book vendors, it would seem that in some cases at least the government should insist that the cash accompany all orders.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier on Monday completed his twelfth year as Premier of Canada, and celebrated it by moving a resolution in parliament to extend the boundaries of Manitoba, Quebec and Ontario. The great majority of the Canadian people hope and intend that Sir Wilfrid shall for many more years occupy his present exalted position.

The point seems to have been reached in Fredericton's civic affairs whereby the tail is attempting to wag the dog, and the citizens no doubt will be glad when they learn that the men whom they elected to sit at the council board, have some rights which the civic officials are bound to respect, else it will be difficult to get good men to occupy seats at the board.

Sun' In the House Saturday night Hon. Mr. Graham announced that the item of \$10,000 in the supplementary estimates for I. C. R. improvements at Fredericton, was the first instalment of an appropriation for a new railway station there to cost at least \$60,000. This, the fulfilment of a long-felt want, the people of York owe largely to the energetic efforts of Mr. W. T. Whitehead, who has been insistent in pressing his city's claims upon the government in this regard.

CITY COUNCIL

(Continued from page three.)

Ald. Farrell, speaking to the amendment, said that his object was to keep down the expenditures, and Ald. Walker's amendment proposed an increased expenditure, therefore he could not support it. He thought that considering the handicap that the business men of the city labored under, on account of the taxes, the aldermen would fail in their duty to the people if they voted to add another \$1150 to the taxes. The assessment is a great handicap on the merchants of the city, considering that the amount of business within their reach is limited, and he had even heard his friend, Ald. Weddall, complain of the excessive taxation. Mr. Neill, for instance, does a large business, but he is called upon to pay a tax of \$965. An increase of \$1,150 in the assessment means something to the citizens. The commission was appointed by the government at the instigation of men who seemed very anxious to have the Scott Act enforced.

The speaker related an incident to show that some of those who were agitating for Scott Act enforcement, did not display a broad minded spirit. When a petition requesting him (Farrell) to offer for alderman was being circulated, one man refused to sign it on the ground that he (Farrell) had signed the petition for the repeal of the Scott Act. The report was without foundation, as he had signed no such petition. He had heard it stated that those who had signed the petition were to be boycotted by the temperance people. That certainly was evidence of a spirit of broad mindedness on the part of the Scott Act advocates. He maintained that Fredericton was a law abiding city, and that the proposed increase in the police force was unnecessary.

Ald. Clark claimed that the increased expenditure would be a very small matter to the taxpayers. He believed that the great majority of the citizens were in favor of the commission idea, and were anxious that the council should take a reasonable view of the matter. He had no doubt that the law breakers of the city were anxious to see the police commission put out of business. He (Clark) had as much interest in the welfare of the city as any man at the board, and wanted to see law and order. He hoped the council would adopt the commission's report.

Ald. Hooper said that in conversation with Ald. Clark a few days ago, he (Clark) had made the statement that the aldermen who opposed the police commission were tools of the rum party. He thought that such an observation was evidence of a spirit of bigotry and narrowness.

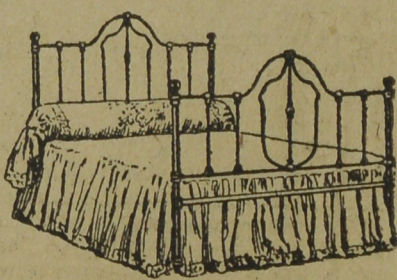
Ald. Clark—I never used that expression.

Ald. Hooper maintained that Ald. Clark did use the words, and he (Hooper) had told him at the time that it was not true. He was so incensed that he had not remained very long to argue the point. He had afterwards told Ald. Weddall what Ald. Clark had said, and he (Weddall) had expressed the opinion that the remark was not justifiable.

Referring to Ald. Walker's amendment, Ald. Hooper said he objected to it because it proposed to increase the pay of an untried man. When Policeman Rideout had asked for an increase, the council, of which Ald. Mitchell was then a member, had re-

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fused to grant it. Rideout was now in Moncton getting \$1,000 per year. He (Hooper) was out late one evening a short time ago, and had seen the whole police force standing in front of Ald. Weddall's store, while the upper part of the city was unprotected. Out at the circus grounds he had seen a policeman, and he was not a private either, with his mouth full of tobacco, and he let out a gob of tobacco, and he let out a hunk of landing on a lady's dress.

ALD. WALKER'S VIEWS.

Ald. Walker said that his views were set forth in the amendment to the amendment, and he thought they were the views of a majority of the citizens. He admitted that taxes were high in Fredericton but pointed out that the rate was lower than in St. John. He was interested in having good order maintained in the city.

MANY DIVISIONS.

Ald. Walker's amendment to the amendment was lost on the following division:

Ald. Walker's:

Yeas—Alds. Walker, Weddall—2.

Nays—Alds. Hooper, Mitchell, Farrell, Kitchen, Crowe, Clark, Winslow—7.

The vote on Ald. Farrell's amendment was then taken and resulted as follows:

Yeas—Alds. Winslow, Hooper, Farrell, Winslow—4.

Nays—Alds. Mitchell, Walker, Crowe, Clark, Weddall—5.

Ald. Mitchell's motion that the report be taken up section by section was carried by the same vote reversed.

NO CHIEF WANTED.

A motion to adopt the first section relating to the appointment of a chief was lost on the following division:

Yeas—Mitchell, Clerk, Weddall—3

Nays—Alds. Hooper, Kitchen, Farrell, Crowe, Walker, Winslow—6.

On section 2 Ald. Mitchell moved

(Continued on fifth page.)

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.

All persons having claims against the estate of Walter McFarlane, late of the Parish of Douglas, deceased, are requested to file the same duly attested within three months from this date with A. J. Gregory, Solicitor, Carleton Street, Fredericton, N. B. and all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment to Albert C. Smith, one of the undersigned Executors at the New Brunswick Foundry, Fredericton.

(Signed) ALBERT C. SMITH,
HARRY A. SMITH,
WILLIAM WILSON.

Executors of the last will and testament of Walter McFarlane, deceased.
June 24—dwtf.

JUNE 29th 1908

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