

THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., FEB. 26, 1906.

The St. John Evening Times is published at 27 and 29 Canterbury Street, every evening (Sunday excepted) by the St. John Times Printing & Publishing Co. Ltd. A company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act. JOHN RUSSELL, JR., President. A. M. BELDING, Editor.

THE FIRE AT MONCTON

The disastrous fire at Moncton, which is described and illustrated in this issue of the Times, not only inflicted great financial loss, but seriously handicaps the Intercolonial Railway during a very busy season. The works can be rebuilt, and the general equipment made better than before, but in the meantime there will be delays and difficulties and much trouble in carrying on the work of the railway. Hon. Mr. Emmerson will of course pursue a vigorous policy, and every effort will be made to bring order out of chaos. This is the most serious calamity in the history of the road, and will try the mettle of the minister and the general staff. The fire will more or less seriously affect for a time the very large staff of mechanics employed in the works, but the minister promises that the plant will be re-erected on a larger and better scale than before, so that while the loss is great there will in the end be a better equipment and no doubt work for a larger staff of workmen.

THEY WANT THE PATRONAGE

At last Wednesday's meeting of the city council a series of resolutions affecting the executive heads of departments was adopted, including the following:

"4. That executive heads of departments and other officials having exercised the power of appointment, suspension or dismissal shall, at the first regular meeting thereafter of the board or committee having administration of the service affected, report in writing each instance of the exercise of such power, with particulars in the case of suspension or dismissal."

This is taking back with one hand what was extended with the other. Under this regulation the director of a department must make public reasons for his acts, which in a case of suspension or dismissal it might be injurious to the person suspended or dismissed to have thus advertised. This resolution is moreover a declaration of want of confidence in the directors. If they must report and give reasons they should be asked to do so before they suspend or dismiss or promote—and not afterwards. What self-respecting head of a department would feel under such conditions that he either had a free hand or the full confidence of the aldermen?

The truth appears to be that having sacrificed a little petty patronage the aldermen repented, and proceeded to undo by this resolution the good they had done. They want the patronage.

GOOD CITIZENSHIP

Addressing the members of the Boston Y. M. C. A. and their friends last week, Mr. Samuel R. Capen stated with striking force certain facts that need to be emphasized in every city.

"The feeling of men who say, 'Let anyone run the government and let me alone to attend to my business' is the great failure of this country," said Mr. Capen. "Although it is well known that the government of Boston is one of the best in the country there are those of us who recognize the possibility for improvement. No man has a right to devote all his time to business and none to the government. The man who does so and prays 'Thy kingdom come' does not utter a Christian prayer. It is our duty to know all about our city government and our schools. We ought to have intelligent opinions on all questions. One night when a good man and a saloon-keeper were fighting for the nomination in a caucus the saloon-keeper won by one vote. And, do you know while that caucus was going on 150 men were around the corner praying for temperance. I have no use for the 'goody-goody' man who stays at home. The last man you know and can face him. When caucuses and prayer meetings come the same night you go to the caucus and let the women do the praying. A man who can't go around the corner and have his ballot counted ought to be drummed out of the city to the tune of 'The Rogue's March.'"

SOME TIMELY REMARKS

The Maritime Merchant makes some observations concerning Halifax that may very well be applied in other cities—St. John, for example. We quote:

"We are glad to see that a special appropriation of \$150,000 for expenditure on the streets in the business part of Halifax has passed the council. This will of course mean additional taxation, but it should be cheerfully paid by the tax payers, for if it is carefully and wisely expended it ought to result in a great deal of good to the business of the city and add materially to its reputation. There is no doubt that Halifax has suffered heavily in the past from its garb—we have all ground our teeth at the phrase 'dear, dirty, old Halifax.' It must not be forgotten that it is the outward and visible semblance that often impresses the stranger more than the sterling qualities which we know ourselves to possess, but cannot very well exhibit. When visitors come in from the smaller towns in the province, and see the streets of the capital in a worse condition than their own at home, they are apt to lose faith in us, and confidence in our ability to be the business leaders is shaken. Instead of carrying away an inspiration to a better effort in this respect at home, they are more probably inspired with pity and contempt for our backward condition."

"We are likely to have more visitors in Halifax this year than we have ever

had in the past; and it is worth something to us as a city that they should carry away with them a good impression of the business aspect of the place. We hope therefore, that while the city is doing its best to put on a good appearance, private enterprise will not be absent, but that the business men will be similarly active. Let us have a period of clean windows and sidewalks, well cared for private grounds, and let us paint where it is needed. The result will be greater pride in our city and confidence in ourselves, as well as making a good impression on our visitors."

THE DEPARTMENT STORE

The competition of department stores, and a movement in the interests of home buying have been suggested as a proper subject for discussion by the St. John Board of Trade. This question has come into prominence in the western states, and has led to vigorous action in some sections. A despatch from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, says:—

"The South Dakota Retail Merchants' Association has begun anew its war on catalogue houses of Chicago and other large cities, and it has succeeded in enlisting the support of other similar associations of small dealers in Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska, and Iowa. The mail order houses, particularly those of Chicago and Minneapolis and St. Paul, have been unusually active and aggressive the past two years, with the result that millions of dollars go annually direct from the farmers and residents in towns and small cities all through the Northwest to the big dealers, instead of the local merchants. Many stores have been closed because of inability to meet this competition. Now some of the most prominent politicians and public officials have affiliated with the movement to keep this immense trade at home, and a lively battle is in prospect with the possibility that the catalogue houses will slash prices in order to maintain their country trade."

If the new suburban rates given by the Moncton Transcript are correct, St. John people who have been living at Renforth, Riverside, Rothesay and other places will vigorously protest. The increase is such as to reduce the traffic to the vanishing point, and divert it to points on the C. P. R. Hon. Mr. Emmerson should look carefully into this matter before deciding on so marked an increase.

THE ARMSTRONG REPORT

(Boston Transcript).

The Armstrong committee, which has been investigating the insurance companies in New York, selected Washington's birthday for putting its report before the public. That report is unavoidably voluminous and it does not possess entire novelty because, on the basis of speculation, good guessing and partial information many of its statements and recommendations have been practically anticipated. Still, it comes with authority and in some respects corrects previous misrepresentations. Its recommendations, if incorporated in legislation, would throw around the business a body of regulations, tending to greatly increase protection to policy holders and make legally impossible the sweep of transactions in which the big companies have engaged, to the undoing of many of their officers and great scandal to the state.

These propose an immediate special act, turning out every director of municipal companies and the election by policy-holders of entire new boards of trustees; a law giving to policy-holders the right to vote by proxy, either personally or by mail; the cancellation of all proxies now in existence and the limitation of the duration of a proxy to two months; prohibiting stockholders from having control of both stock companies and mutual companies, and from investment in stocks. All companies holding stocks and bonds of the prohibited classes are to be disposed of within five years, and no officer, director or trustee, shall be pecuniarily interested in any sale or loan except a loan on his own policy. New business is to be limited to \$150,000,000 a year and all companies must have standard policies. Political contributions are strictly forbidden, and so are rebates, bonuses, prizes or rewards, while full publicity is required in all departments. A law is suggested forbidding the incorporation of assessment or co-operative insurance companies, or the admission of such companies already formed to business in the state. The activities of all legislative agents or counsels are to be put under strict regulation and the payment of their services is to be made public in the several details. Deferred dividends are condemned and strict economy of administration is to be prescribed by law, while it is proposed to give policy-holders the right to sue without an appeal to the attorney-general. "Of all the reforms suggested by the committee, nothing, it is believed, is more imperatively demanded than that the companies should be compelled to exhibit the results of their management by annual accounting." An interesting provision is that which calls for the continuation in force of policies after lapse of premium so long as a surrender value remains to apply to the payment of premiums.

Contrary to previous statements, the committee does not propose a limitation of salaries, and it does not recommend that the legislature should undertake to regulate the expenditure of insurance companies. It cannot undertake the management of the business, but it holds that all salaries over \$5,000 should be fixed by a board of directors, and not by any committee, and an annual statement of the same should be made to the superintendent of insurance. Restrictions are also placed upon the commissions that may be paid to agents. The new safeguards that are proposed may appear sweeping and radical, but they have been suggested by abuses actually discovered during the investigation. The limitation of the amount of business that may be done in a single year is likely to be challenged by the legislature. It will strike not a few outside the constitutional power of that body, and apparently opens the door to an unprecedented interference with business activities. If the other recommendations are made laws and strictly enforced, the increase of business will take care of itself without serious menace to the policy-holders.

Open till 11 tonight

St. John, N. B., Feb. 24, 1906.

CLOTHING BARGAINS HERE NOW

We are clearing out all lines of men's and boy's suits, pants, etc., of which there are only a few left of each line—THIS MEANS BARGAINS for those who take advantage.

THE SPECIAL PRICES ARE:

Men's Suits, \$3.95, 5, 6, 7.50 and \$8.75

MEN'S SUITS, \$3.95, 5, 6, 7.50 and \$8.75

BOY'S PIECE SUITS special, \$2.50 and \$3.50

BOY'S 2 PIECE SUITS, \$1.10, \$1.75 and up

MEN'S PANTS \$1.00 up, Boy's Short Pants, 45c. up. MEN'S \$1.25 Tweed

Hats for 75c.

J. N. HARVEY, Men's and Boys' Clothier, 199 to 207 Union Street.

Size 2 1-2 Shoes.

Women who wear this size will find it to their advantage to look at the offerings in McROBBIE SHOE COMPANY'S WINDOW today. Prices range from 50 cents up.



FURNITURE.

Special Discount Sale.

This is not a Clearance Sale, but a genuine discount sale of NEW GOODS. Why buy out-of-style patterns when you can get the newest and latest designs just from the factory at much lower prices. You can select your goods now from our SPRING STOCK, which is arriving every day at the same large DISCOUNT for the balance of this month. Goods will be at old prices till required.

REMEMBER this is the only store off giving NEW STOCK at SALE PRICES. Call and see us before placing your order.

BUSTIN & WITHERS, 99 Germain St.

OPEN EVENINGS.

Asbestos Sad IRONS.



Keep hot longer than ordinary irons—the asbestos cover does the work. The handle the correct shape for easy work. Very smooth, highly nickel-plated. No rough edges.

Set consisting of three irons, stand and a handle, price \$2.00

Set of Mrs. Potts' Sadirons, polished, price \$1.80

Set of Mrs. Potts' Sadirons, Nickel-plated, price \$1.00

EMERSON & FISHER, LIMITED.

The New Store. 25 Germain Street.

WOMENS' DONGOLA BALS.

With back strap and patent tip, a nice dressy shoe for spring—\$2.25. Another grade, with back strap and plain toe, a good appearing shoe, sells for \$2.00. A nice line of Women's, Misses' and Children's City Boots, fleece lined. All sizes. All prices.

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Our Graham Wafers cannot be equalled in the city. Ask your grocer for them and see you get the York.

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365 Main street.

DIAMONDS, WATCHES, CLOCKS AND CHAINS at Lowest Prices.

G. D. PERKINS, WATCHMAKER AND JEWELER.

90 Prince Wm. St.

St. John, N. B.

Phone 906.

Have You a House To Let?

The time to Advertise Houses To Let is at hand. The paper that has the most readers is the best medium.

The TIMES

has the largest circulation of any afternoon paper in St. John. Your advertisement in THE TIMES will relieve you of the trouble of seeking tenants. They will read your announcement and come to you

Similarly persons seeking a house or flat for the next year, will save time and trouble by announcing their wants in

THE TIMES.

MANY AT FUNERAL OF ROBERT FULTON

Last Tribute to Stroke of the Famous Paris Crew.

The funeral of Robert Fulton, which took place yesterday from his home in Carleton, was probably the largest ever seen there. A very large number of members of the Masonic fraternity from Carleton Union Lodge and from the east side walked in regalia in front of the hearse, while customs house officials also walked in a body.

The services began at the house at 2:30, Rev. H. D. Marr, of Carleton Methodist church, and Rev. Thomas Marshall, of Carmarthen street Methodist church, being the officiating clergymen. The service began with a hymn by the Holden quartette. Rev. Mr. Marr then read I Corinthians xv. and Psalms xix. A second hymn by the quartette followed, after which Rev. Mr. Marshall repeated the Lord's Prayer and the benediction. The house was filled with mourners. The casket was slowly and reverently placed in the hearse, after which the procession slowly wended its way to the Cedar Hill cemetery.

The Masonic brethren walked in front of the hearse and following them were the chief mourners, including George Price and Elijah Ross, the survivors of the famous Paris crew. Behind these walked the members of the customs house staff and a very large number of private citizens. Arrived at the cemetery the casket was borne to the grave by members of Union Lodge F. & A. M. Rev. Mr. Marr and Rev. F. S. Bamford conducted a short service, after which the impressive Masonic committal service was read by Rev. Mr. Marr. Upon the casket were placed handsome floral emblems, including a broken ear of wheat, roses, lilies, lily of the valley and maiden hair fern, from Collector Dunn and the customs officials. A broken ear piece was also sent by Elijah Ross.

PORTLAND, ME., HAD \$120,000 FIRE YESTERDAY

Brick Block, Occupied by J. E. Gould, Wholesale Druggist, Destroyed.

Portland, Me., Feb. 25.—A total loss estimated at \$120,000, was caused by the fire early today which gutted the three story brick block at Nos. 200 and 208 Federal street, occupied exclusively by J. E. Gould, one of the largest four wholesale drug and outfit firms in Maine. The fire broke out on the part of the firemen confined the flames to this block and very little damage was sustained by occupants of the adjoining buildings which were in danger for two hours until there was fairly well under control. Its origin is a mystery. The first sign of it was when a loud explosion was heard, evidently in the rear of the ground floor, and the flames were seen to burst from the front and back of the lower portion of the block. The shipping department was located in the back part of the first floor and it is supposed the fire started there and communicated with explosive chemicals and paints. During the progress of the fire there were several explosions, one of which caused by the igniting of a large supply of other in the top story, sent the flames high into the air and made the work of the firemen appear more hazardous.

The firemen held their positions and for most of the time they had more than 15 engine streams playing on the fire in the front and rear.

There were no accidents, although Chief M. N. Edridge and several others were assaulted temporarily by the smoke and fumes of chemicals. The first alarm was sounded at 2:30 o'clock and was followed within three minutes by a general alarm—the first one for more than a year—calling out the entire department. The stock, which practically is a total loss, was valued at about \$100,000 and insured for \$50,000. The block was owned by Ammi Whitney, of Kendall & Whitney, whose three story brick agricultural warehouse adjoins and his loss is estimated at \$20,000, covered by insurance. J. E. Gould & Co. will resume business as soon as the other drug houses where they will remain until temporary quarters are fitted.

The block will be rebuilt as soon as the insurance is adjusted and the debris cleared out. The walls remain standing and are not greatly weakened.

PRINCESS ENA AND ALFONSO

(From the Chicago Chronicle) It is rather surprising that the Protestant Federation of England and numerous other religious churches are complaining to King Edward of the intention of the Princess Ena of Battenburg to embrace the Roman Catholic religion as a preliminary to her marriage with King Alfonso, and even asking that the marriage may be prohibited.

It was customary centuries ago, of course, for kings to exercise the same control over the love and marriage of their subjects that they did over their studs and kennels, but we had supposed that this authority had been relaxed and perhaps abandoned.

So far as religion is concerned we do not recall any instance in the history of royal families in which it was not regarded as a matter of State and as liable to change as the court language or the court dress. It is astonishing that in a monarchial country there should be any indignation at a princess for abjuring her religious faith or any petition to the king to prevent it.

Are not the complainants taking the matter too seriously? Are they sure that the Princess Ena ever had any religious convictions or that she is intellectually capable of conversion to the dogmas of religious views? Is she any more conscious of doing something serious than she would be if she changed her religion or gown? What would be an unpardonable sin in a sensible person may be in her case a mere nothing.

If this defence of the princess, on the ground of imbecility, will not hold, we do not see what can save her from contempt. In every age of the world the betrayal or denial of religious belief for personal advantage has been regarded as the most detestable of sins. If it is such in the Princess Ena's case, it is not because she is espousing the Roman Catholic faith. It would be just as execrable if she were abjuring the Roman Catholic faith for the Protestant faith. The hypocrisy and treachery would be just the same.

In this view of the case, it might not be a bad idea for King Edward, provided he has any authority to forbid the banes, at least on the condition of the princess' apostasy. He would not be interfering with any religious liberty, because the princess would be either incapable of religious convictions or else treating her religious convictions with contempt. If he should read the riot act to the royal people he might displease two lovers, but he could do no violence to sincere piety.

Of course, if this religious tergiversation is disgraceful in the princess, it is still more so in King Alfonso. This prince has never been supposed to have either mind or soul, but so far as he is capable of a moral act, he is infinitely disgraced by asking a woman to forswear her religion in order to become his wife. If he had any decency or principle in him he would rather have a queen who was true and sincere in her ideas of right than one who could change her religion with as much facility as her shoes.

Arnold's Removal Sale. 2,000 Yards Remnants White Cotton—3 to 10 yard lengths, 6c., 7c., 8c. yard. Big value in Ladies' White Wear, Vests, Corsets, Gloves, Hosiery, Purses, Handbags, Laces, Hamper, Ribbons, Vellings, Lace Collars, Towels, White Waistings, Gingham, Curtains, China Silks, all colors, 25c. yard. Floor Rugs, Rug Fringe, Straw Matting, Wall Paper, 9,000 Rolls, going at 2c., 2 1/2c., 3c., 4c., 5c. Roll, 50 patterns to choose from.

Arnold's Department Store, 11 and 15 Charlotte Street.

About May 1st we remove to Robertson, Triggs' old stand, 83 and 85 Charlotte street.

AMLAND BROTHERS.

Those who have old shabby Parlor Suites, Lounges Easy Chairs, etc., which need re-upholstering, can have them made over in the latest styles before the spring rush.

New Furniture

To Select From.

AMLAND BROTHERS,

Furniture and Carpet Dealers, 19 Waterloo Street.

New Spring Cloths.

We are now opening our new stock of cloths for Spring Wear consisting of

Overcoatings, Suitings and Trouserings

in the newest and best makes and patterns. An early inspection is invited.

A. R. Campbell & Son, High Class Tailoring, 26 Germain St.

DOUBLE SOLE BOOTS

For Spring.

Men's Laced, Elastic Side, Toe Cap or Plain Toes

\$2.50 3.00 3.50 SEE OUR VARIETY

4.00 5.00

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FRANCIS & VAUGHAN, 19 King Street.

FERGUSON & PAGE.

For Choice Goods in

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Silverware, Cut Glass, Etc., call upon us at

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BARGAINS.

Men's Felt Lined Leather

Box Boots, \$1.25 per pair

E. O. PARSONS, WEST END.

FRESH FISH DAILY.

You can get fresh fish here every day. Salt and smoked fish too; all kinds. Fresh vegetables in abundance.

COLLINS BROS., 17 Winslow St. ST. JOHN WEST.

GILBERT LANE DYE WORKS.

LACE CURTAINS cleaned and done up EQUAL TO NEW. Carpets cleaned and beaten. Dyeing and scouring.

MACAULAY BROS. & CO., City Agents

I can stuff Birds and Animals of all kinds. Give me a trial. No experimenting. I have been in the business for years.

P. E. CAMPBELL, : : Taxidermist and Seedsman,

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Spinach, Artichokes, Sweet Potatoes, Celery, Lettuce, Radish, Parsley, Pepper Grass.

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YOU ARE NEXT!

When there are seven men in the shop. No tedious waiting—Quick work done by expert workmen. Drop in and give us a trial.

R. C. McAFEE, The Basement Barber Shop, Head of King Street.

TWEED HATS.

Just the Hat for this weather. In different colors. Large and Small Shapes.

Special Prices, 75c. and \$1.00.

F. S. THOMAS, Dufferin Block, Main St.

NORTH END.