THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 6, 1907.

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JOHN RUSSELL, JR., President. A. M. BELDING, Editor.

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WHY OPPOSITION?

The futility of offering any opposition to Hon. Dr. Pugsley is quite as apparent as its unwisdom. He is the choice of so great a majority of the men who consider national rather than party interests that his election in the face of any opposition is a foregone conclusion. The most important consideration at this time is the development of St. John as a winter port and a terminus of great railway systems. We have been told by railroad authorities that the facilities here cannot be developed too fast for the business that must come to the seaboard in ever increasing volume from western Canada. It is not merely a local matter, but a national problem. It will be the sooner and the more satisfactorily solved if St. John is represented at Ottawa by the most influential and able of her public men. Purely partisan considerations may suggest to strong party men the idea of opposition, but the interests of the city are paramount in most minds, and it is not yet certain that any opposition will be offered. Were there serious objection to Dr. Pugsley as a candidate, or did the occasion call for vigorous opposition, there would be no hesitancy, but a vigorous campaign; for when important issues are at stake St. John takes its politics quite seriously. It may still be hoped that Dr. Pugsley will go to Ottawa with the unanimous endorsement of the people at a time when the interests of St. John are peculiarly the interests of the transportation system of the whole country, and require the advocacy of a clever brain fully informed on all phases of the transportation question.

A LESSON FOR ST. JOHN

It will be of interest to those St. John aldermen who hesitated about giving a very small grant in aid of supervised playgrounds to learn that in Winnipeg there is a public playgrounds committee of the city council, and that it will ask the council to vote on the question of submitting to the ratepayers a by-law providing $200,000 to purchase and equip playgrounds. If this is carried out, Winnipeg will lead all other Canadian cities in recognition of the best interests of the youth and young manhood of the community.

The nearest approach to a large free playground St. John has ever enjoyed will be the Victoria grounds this year, under the auspices of the Every Day Club; and it is to be regretted that financial conditions will make it necessary to impose any restrictions at all as to participation in the benefits. But even under present conditions the club will be able to do a vast deal of good in the encouragement of healthy physical exercise and legitimate sport.

In order that Times readers may learn exactly how this question of playgrounds is regarded in Winnipeg, we quote from the Free Press a report of the meeting of the playgrounds committee, as follows:—

The public playgrounds committee of the city council met yesterday afternoon. It was decided to recommend to the council that 8 1-2 acres of city property on the Red river near St. Mary's cemetery be set aside for public recreation grounds. This property was purchased by the city some years ago as a site for a quarantine hospital which has since been built at Brookside cemetery.

A motion also went through to set aside the exhibition grounds as public playgrounds when not in use for exhibition purposes.

A decision was also reached to recommend that all the property owned by the city in blocks 2 and 3 D. G. S. 43-44 St. John's plan 329, be held for use as recreation grounds. This will provide play grounds in the portion of the city farthest north.

The council will also be asked to vote on a recommendation to prepare and submit to the ratepayers a by-law to raise $200,000 for purchasing and equipping playgrounds.

Ald. Pulford said that public playgrounds should be provided now. Property was daily increasing in value and it was desirable to get close in property before it was built upon. There should be public playgrounds in several parts of the city—one in Fort Rouge; another in the west end, between Notre Dame and Portage, and east of Happyland; a third on the exhibition grounds; a fourth in the extreme north, and a fifth in Elmwood.

Ex-Ald. Robt. Barclay appeared as a deputation from the Scottish Amateur Athletic association. That organization was strongly in favor of the public playground idea. Winnipeg had so many young men that it was almost an absolute necessity to have recreation grounds.

D. A. McIntyre came as a representative of the Principals' association of the city. He also felt that he represented all the children of the city. "There isn't anything that affects the well-being of the children more than free play." declared Mr. McIntyre, "the children certainly have opportunities for play." It was being recognized in the largest cities now that public playgrounds were a necessity. He was sure that the business men of the city were in favor of the securing of recreation grounds.

H. R. Haddock, physical director of the Y. M. C. A. represented the association and the union of athletic organizations. He referred to the movement in other cities for public playgrounds. He urged the committee to continue the movement in Winnipeg. He suggested that the best principles of business and manhood as well as sport be taken into this plan for public playgrounds.

Ald. Pulford said that the grounds would have to be fitted with baths and lockers and would be governed by regulations passed by a committee.

Mr. Haddock stated that it was usual to have a man who understood the games as supervisor of the grounds. Fifteen or twenty acre grounds would be quite practical.

The British sailors won the Battenburg cup in a boat race at the Jamestown exposition. This will grieve those boastful American papers which had been saying that things were all coming their way.

A SPRING CLEANING.

The following proclamation is prominently displayed on the first page of a recent issue of the Kalamazoo, Michigan, Gazette, and is worthy of attention in eastern cities as well as in the city of Mayor Thompson:—

"In the interests of civic cleanliness and beauty, I, William Thompson, mayor of the city of Kalamazoo, do hereby name Saturday, May 4th, as a general cleaning-up day for the city of Kalamazoo. I most respectfully urge all citizens to make their premises, front yards and back yards as clean and orderly as they possibly can be made, and to do this as a preparation for further improvements. Remove all the old tin cans, all rubbish of all kinds, straighten up the fences and, if possible, paint or whitewash the sheds and houses. Do something to improve and beautify your home and your premises. Plant a tree or a vine; prepare for a flower garden and take a personal interest in doing that which will be a pleasure and something that will make us all realize that we have not only a Greater Kalamazoo, but a most beautiful Kalamazoo. To those who reside along our steam railways and interurban railways, I most respectfully call their attention to cleaning their back yards, and making the rear of their homes attractive and beautiful as the the front yards are, as we want everybody to help do something that will be a credit to Kalamazoo. I most respectfully request the school authorities to co-operate in this work by instructing the children to remain at home and do their full part on this cleaning-up day, and I respectfully ask all the children of the city to faithfully perform this civic and necessary duty. I further request that the proprietors of all business houses and manufacturers of Kalamazoo will take an interest in this matter and see that their premises are put in better order, and to do what they can among their employes to have them embrace this opportunity of beautifying their homes and our Greater Kalamazoo. The splendid results obtained last year from the proclamation was so gratifying that I hope our citizens will do even better this year."

What a surprise it would be to some parts of St. John if the residents made a united attack on "rubbish of all kinds," and set about beautifying their surroundings. And yet there is nothing that makes life in a city more endurable than just such a display of civic cleanliness and pride and public spirit. St. John should profit by the hint from Kalamazoo.

The trial of several officials of the Western Federation of Miners, charged with the murder of former Governor Steuenberg of Idaho, will be one of the most sensational in the history of the United States. The Socialists and many labor organizations throughout the country have made the cause of the accused men their own, and some Socialist organs have openly preached rebellion should the men be convicted. President Roosevelt has been roughly denounced for an utterance which was interpreted by these journals as an attempt to influence public opinion in the case, and altogether passions have been aroused entirely out of harmony with the administration of impartial justice.

It seems to have cost Rev. Dr. Torrey two hundred dollars in Montreal last week to learn that there are limits to what an evangelist may say to persons who differ from his views. But the man who differed would have shown better taste by staying away or keeping silent.

The desire to keep the public fully informed appears to be largely developed in St. John. There is a rumor that another daily paper may be started.

SEES BIG WAR FOR PACIFIC

Former Secretary Shaw Believes U. S. Will Have to Fight.

WORCESTER, May 4—In his speech at the 32nd annual banquet of the Worcester Board of Trade, Leslie M. Shaw, former Secretary of the Treasury, declared that war for the control of the Pacific Ocean is inevitable.

"I do not wish to pose as a prophet," he said, "but do you suppose that the Pacific will always be a peaceful ocean? God grant that it may. We have not a collier, a transport, powder or supplies to last 48 hours. Other nations have. There are many ships in the merchant service of foreign countries which are under contract to leave the path of commerce at a moment's notice to enter that of war. We have not one such as these.

'Some day, as sure as Anglo-Saxon blood runs red, there is to be an awful war. There are two nations that can contest for the Pacific, and this war will be settled at an awful cost."

Samuel Swanton, a teamster living at 128 St. Patrick street, was badly injured on Saturday evening by falling down a hatch in the Walsh feed store on Brussels street. Concussion of the brain resulted from his fall and he was unconscious for some hours.

Rev. W. S. Pritchard preached his farewell sermon in the Congregational church last evening. He will probably go to Toronto. Rev. Silas Anthony, of Milton, N. S., will occupy the pulpit of the church next Sunday.

Make yourself worth while.
Stand your ground—only the brave can do that.

Stores open till 8 p. m. St. John, May 6, 1907.

Carpenters at Work Pulling Down Walls.

The carpenters and painters are now in full charge of the store formerly occupied by the "I. C. S." They are pulling down walls and putting it in shape to be added to our other stores. This will give us a lot more room. Wonderful how this business grows, isn't it? Yet it isn't either. Think of the values the people get here in clothing and furnishings for Men and Boys. Now is the time to buy.

Men's Suits, - - $3.95 to $20.00
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—GIVE US A TRIAL—
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NOTICE
A meeting of the directors and shareholders of the St. John Exhibition Association, together with the persons and firms that contributed to the Guarantee Fund to hold an exhibition this year, will be held in the Board of Trade Rooms, Prince William street, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 8th, at 8 o'clock.
A full attendance is urgently requested.
By order
A. O. SKINNER, President. J. F. GLEESON, Secretary.

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Main 1967 Cortright, L. H., residence, 189 Princess.
Main 898-11 Fox, D. Arnold, residence, 182 Princess.
Main 1968 Gale, Miss Franklyn, residence, 163 Waterloo.
Main 1782-21 Greenslade, L. P., grocer, 295 City Road.
Main 603-41 Hoyt, H., residence, 109 Main.
Main 890 Ontario Fire Insurance Co., Alfred Burley General Agent, 46 Princess.
Main 658 Wortman, F. M., residence, 46 Wright.
Main 1617 Kessen, R. B., residence, 204 Germain.
Main 1875-21 Tait, John B., residence, 171 Charlotte street, number changed from West 3-42 to Main 1875-21.
A. W. McMACKIN, Local Manager.
May 3rd, 1907.

St. John, N. B., May 6, 1907.
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Lace Trimmed and Embroidery Corset Covers, 25c.
Drawers, 25c. pair. Skirts and Nightgowns cheap.
Ladies' Vests, long and short sleeves, 10c. up.
A. B. WETMORE, Wall Paper, 59 Garden St.

POEM BY ROBERTS

O Earth, sufficing all our needs, O you
With room for body and for spirit, too,
How patient while your children vex their souls
Devising alien heavens beyond your blue.

Dear dwelling of the immortal and unseen,
How obstinate in my blindness have I been,
Not comprehending what your tender calls,
Veiled promises and reassurance, mean!

Not far and cold the way that they have gone,
Who thro' your sundering darkness have withdrawn
Almost within our hand-reach they remain
Who pass beyond the sequence of the dawn.

Not far and strange the heavens, but very near
Your children's hearts unknowingly hold dear,
At times we almost catch the door swung wide—
An unforgotten voice almost we hear!

I am the heir of heaven—and you are just.
You, you alone I know, and you I trust.
Tho I seek God beyond the farthest star,
Here shall I find Him, in your deathless dust.

—Charles G. D. Roberts, in The Craftsman.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

HAD HIM THERE.

Pat.—Who goes there?
"Officer of the day."
Pat—Then phwat the devil are yez doing out here at night?

* * *

THE ETERNAL QUESTION.

First Kentuckian—Our pastor preached a strong sermon on whisky drinking last Sabbath.

Second Kentuckian—Was he for or against it?

* * *

SIMPLE ENOUGH.

Her—I wonder why it is that a big man usually has a little wife?

Him—I don't know, unless it's because a little woman usually has a big husband.

* * *

WILLIE WAS FRANK.

Mother—Willie, why did you come into the parlor and ask for a piece of cake when I had callers?

Willie—Because I knew if I waited till they went I'd never get it.

* * *

ASSUMED NO RESPONSIBILITY.

"I don't see why you can't be a good little girl, Nettie," said her mother.

"Well," replied Nettie, solemnly, "I'm just as good as God made me, so what are you going to do about it?"

* * *

THE AWAKENING.

Bobby's father, having called Bobby, heard an awful thump on the floor above.

"What was that terrific noise, my son?" he asked in alarm.

"Well," explained Bobby, "I dremp' I was a duck an' when I woke up I had swum off the bed."

* * *

CARRY THEM OUT.

"I sent you some suggestions telling you how to make your paper more interesting. Have you carried out any of my ideas?"

Editor—'Did you meet the office boy with the waste basket as you came up the stairs? Yes? Well, he was carrying out your ideas!"—Woman's Home companion.

DESERVE NO SYMPATHY

(Portland Advertiser.)

The plea for leniency offered by many a drunken brute who has been haled bependent upon him, although wife and fore the courts that he has a family dechildren may be subject to abuse and neglect,should have as little weight with other judges as it has with Judge Mahoney of Lawrence, Mass., who has publicly stated his objection to accepting such a plea. Of this opinion the Brockton Enterprise well says:

"It's about the last refuge of a sinking fellow when he arises in court and makes a sympathy plea on account of his family when he knows well that he hasn't treated that family right and is of little use to them at best. A man who has always done well by his wife and children has a good and fair argument when he asks leniency of the court on their account when arraigned for some offence that is not against them. But the fellow who assaults wife or child, and leaves them cold and hungry and half-clothed, and then weeps in court and asks to be spared to them and not sent away, is a person that deserves the full extent every time he makes the plea; and Judge Mahoney appears to be about ready to give it to such people in the future, judging from his statement from the bench."

It is an encouraging sign that judges quite generally are showing a disposition to bear harder upon that contemptible class of offenders who fail to properly support their families, and who appropriate the money that should be devoted to that purpose for low dissipation. Leniency only serves to encourage that form of wrong-doing, and, save in a few cases, drastic remedies are called for, and alone can be expected to lessen the evil.

CANADIAN CLUBS

The Canadian Club of St. John has 300 members, but it is only a few months old. The Canadian Club in Ottawa is in its fifth year, and has 1054 members. Of its annual meeting held last week the Ottawa Journal says:—

"The Canadian Club is entering the fifth year of its existence under the brightest auspices of success if the deep interest manifested by members at the annual meeting last night is any criterion. Greater efforts to make it a strong force for the inculcation of true Canadian patriotism is the keynote of every speech and many valuable suggestions for the incoming executive's consideration were thrown out. Among these were the necessity for suitable permanent quarters as the membership, now over a thousand has far outgrown the capacity of available halls or the Russell dining room; the printing in book form of the most valuable addresses delivered before it since its inception; the granting of prizes to Ottawa school children for essays on Canadian subjects; the fixing of regular intervals for meetings; more addresses by members of the club, to be followed by open discussion and many others. This closing year has been a very successful one both from the point of view of the lecturers secured, and from the growth of the club. The membership now totals 1,054 and the interest in its work is increasing."

Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, of New York, a widow, who went to Boston several weeks ago to engage in physchological research, has reported to the Boston police that she had been robber of $2,000 worth of jewelry.

WALL PAPER.
We still have a good assortment of Wall Papers at 3c., 4c., 5c., to 20c. Roll, best patterns are going fast.
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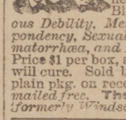
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