The Daily Journal

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ST. JOHN, N. B. TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1922.

GRAFT RING ORGANS SHOULD EXPLAIN.

What is the difference between the platforms of Mr. Fisher and Mayor MLcellan? Simply, that Mr. Fisher would go ahead with the building of a competing distribution plant, and Mr. McLellan, before committing the city to this course, would exhaust every means of compromise. Mr. Fisher makes an arbitrary offer and it is a foregone conclusion that this offer will be turned down by the Power Company, because it is not based on the only logical basis in such a transaction—the replacement value. Mr. McLellan would submit the two offers to an independent board of arbitration.

The morning organ of graft ring, which publishes Mr. Fisher's platform every day, should explain how it can possibly reconcile the third section of that platform to a statement it made on October 3, which read as follows:—

> If the city were taking over the Power Company's property and the price could not be agreed upon,, arbitration would be in order.

It is useless for the organs of graft ring to say that the city does not want to take over the property of the Power Company, for even the arbitrary platform of Mr. Fisher announces this desire. He makes an offer. He would not make the offer unless he really felt that the wiser course for the city to pursue, would be to take over the Power Company. Evidently, the ominous and menacing "hidden hand" excludes from that platform any basis for an agreement should the offer be unsatisfactory. Yet the morning organ of graft ring admits that in a set of circumstances such as inevitably will arise should Mr. Fisher's offer be made by the city, arbitration would be in order.

Of course arbitration would be in order. Why, then, does not the platform which the organs of graft ring support make provision for arbitration?

THE 'LONGSHOREMEN'S ACTION.

The action of the 'Longshoremen's Union last evening in withdrawing from the Trades and Labor Council was only to be expected in view of the high-handed decision of the latter body to endeavor to control the voice of labor in the mayoralty contest. The withdrawal of the delegates representing the 'Longshoremen's Union was taken after careful consideration for it was felt that no set of union leaders had any authority to express the feeling of labor on any political matter. It is intimated that other unions will take similar action. It is only right that they should do so. The Trades and Labor Council was by no means unanimous in its decision to support Mr. Fisher and even if it were unanimous, no such action should have been taken. The time has gone by when a few labor leaders can control the political opinions of organized labor. Laborers can think, act and vote for themselves just as well as any other citizens and it is quite evident that the members of organized labor in St. John intend to exercise their franchise as they see fit, individually.

OPINIONS OF THE PROVINCIAL PRESS.

It is a significant fact that the newspapers in other towns of the province all seem to view with alarm the St. John platform which Mr. Fisher proposes that the city adopt. The organs which are supporting this platform and the "hidden hand" which is controlling the policy of the candidate are characterized as "hold-up men" and "second story workers."

In an editorial last week the Chatham Gazette came out strongly against the proposal to build a second distribution plant in St. John, pointing out that such a course must of necessity mean increased taxation. Now we note in the Chatham World, of which Commodore J. L. Stewart, dean of the newspaper fraternity in New Brunswick, is editor, an article stating that "should Mr. Fisher's platform be adopted by the citizens, St. John will be eternally blackballed in the financial world." This article which is published in full on this page refers to the "organized hold-up men" who purpose to build a new distribution plant and destroy the value of the company's property. The World believes that the common sense view as a business proposition would be to take the replacement value of the property as a basis not the original cost.

The opinions of these outside papers, which have no axe to grind, are entirely independent of St. John and our civic politics, and are able to view the situation here with the calm, unbiased viewpoint of spectators should have a great deal of weight with the citizens of St. John. They are opposed to the Fisher platform because they believe that if it is adopted, St. John must suffer and if St. John suffers, the effect must be felt throughout the province.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS.

Business has definitely turned the corner that leads to fundamentally normal conditions and attaining that level conditions will enter an era of prosperity again. This is the opinion of Mr. Roger Babson, American statistical expert who spoke on this subject in Toronto last week.

Summer was the period of inflation—of prosperity. Then came autumn, a period of declining prices, of collapsing business such as was experienced in 1920 and 1921. Followed the winter of depression which in turn has always given way to spring, a period of upward readjustment but under the normal line of business. That is the period we are now entering. It will continue until the amount of deflation equalled the amount of inflation of the prosperous period.

Mr. Babson gave an interesting theory as to the importance of different divisions of personnel in the different periods. In periods of prosperity importance should be attached to the activities of buying; the purchasing agent was the key man to prevent loss and save money. In the period of reaction that followed the man in charge of the finances—banks, loans, etc.—was all important. In the period of depression it is Mr. Babson's opinion that the credit manager is the pivotal officer. Business men should grant credits more freely in times of depression. Experience had shown that credits granted in the period were usually sound. Now that we have entered upon the phase in the cycle analagous to the spring of the year, Mr. Babson feels that the men connected with selling and extensive advertising are all important. Aggressive selling and extensive advertising are needed to make this period a good one for business.

MONKEY GLANDS

People who are considering taking a chance on the monkey gland operation should keep this in mind and weigh it cautiously:

FIRST—It takes several years for glandular treatment to reveal its effects, and as yet it is unknown whether these effects are more than briefly temporary.

SECOND—The "fountain of youth" operation consists of transplanting interstitial glands from a chimpanzee into a human. These glands form only one unit of a chain of at least eight other endocrine glands in the human body—thyroid, adrenals, pituitary, pineal, pancreas, etc.

Tinkering with any one of these glands, which are very delicately adjusted and balanced, may upset the balance and affect the other glands, with decided and unexpected effects on the general health of body and mind.

The old gentlemen who are testing out the monkey gland operation are admirable and daring experimenters in uncertainty.

Referring to the proposals of Sir Adam Beck and the talk of a second Chippawa development at Niagara, the Financial Post says that "to spend more millions on the construction of ditches to divert water from above the falls would be nothing short of an engineering and economic crime in the opinion of T. Kennard Thomson, the well known foundation engineer of New York." The Post believes that the Chippawa development will mean expensive power for Ontario, at best. The Gregory Commission of inquiry will throw more light on whether the expenditure has been the result of extravagance and inefficiency or unsound engineering, but as the Post remarks the finding makes little difference to the power users and the taxpayers as they must foot the bills in any event.

It is freely predicted by many workers that Mayor McLellan will have a handsome majority when the votes are counted on Monday. The campaign of misrepresentation conducted by his opponents has recoiled on their own heads and more than ever people are asking why do they conceal the facts and refuse to report the mayor's meetings?

Last evening at the opening of the Arena His Worship was given a wonderful reception, one to warm the heart of any public man, which goes to prove that he still retains his popularity and that the people, generally, believe that the course he advocates is the proper one for the city to pursue.

The Young Canadians' Forest League which has been formed recently has a very worthy object, namely, the checking of the disastrous forest fires which sweep Canada every year and cause such tremendous loss and suffering, and also the encouragement of tree planting. The membership is free and open to the youth of Canada under 21 years of age.

PRESS PARAGRAPHS

A Large Order

(Wall. Street Journal)

Forty years ago a pacifist government in England, that of Mr. Gladstone, with John Bright as its shining moral example intervened in Egypt when France declined the invitation to do so. That was only one of many instances where the British took up the white man's burden in undertaking the thankless job others shirked. Those who have blackguarded the British up hill and down dale, in Congress and out of it, are now demanding that Britain, single-handed, and even with the secret opposition of the French and Italians, shall suppress the Turks; guaranteeing to the world peace in the province of Adrianople, an internationalized Constantinople and an unfortified access to the Black Sea.

Apparently, Great Britain is the only power that can do it. If she does it successfully, with enormous resulting prestige, she will once more be furiously attacked for giving good government and the pax Britannica, exactly as she has been attacked for forty years for giving good government to Egypt which never had it before, or even for giving union, peace and prosperity to South Africa to replace the corrupt and dishonest Boer republics.

A Bureau of Education

(Montreal Gazette)

The ministers of education of the provinces, and their deputies at a conference at Toronto on matters related to their official duties declined to approve of the creation of a National Bureau of Education as part of the federal administrative machinery, the functions of which, as set out, would be to collect information concerning the various Canadian school systems and investigate new educational movements. The chief objector was Hon. Mr. David, of this province, under whose charge the educational system falls. He would not even recommend the idea of such a bureau to the Government to which he belongs.

The Spirit of Adventure in Business

(Financial Post)

To the spirit of adventure—that wonderful spirit of our British ancestors which sent them out into the four corners of the world and so largely contributed to the splendor of the Empire of today—was given credit for the initiative and the enterprise which are so important in the success of modern engineering enterprises and business undertakings, by A. Munro Greer, K. C., president of the Canadian Niagara Power Company, in an address before the Purchasing Agents' Association of Toronto. Mr. Greer emphasized that the upholding of a great nation was due in the last analysis to the efforts of individuals—men of vision and of courage.

THE ARID OCEAN

(By Berton Braley.)

(If Mr. Daughtery's ruling holds.)
Once on a time the sea was wet,
As wet as wet could be,
But nowadays you cannot get
A single drink at sea.
Closed is the bar that once with rye
Was stocked so plenteouslee,
For now the sea has been made dry
By Mr. Daugherty.

Time was the toper found relief,
When three miles out, but now
The heavy lines of hopeless grief
Are graven on his brow.
The three mile limit's vanished quite,
And so in vain we sigh,
For there is no relief in sight,
Since all the seas are dry.

I gaze about me, west and east,
And also north and south,
But there's no chance, no not the least,
Of lessening the drouth.
And so I mumble in despair,
As 'round the sea I blink,
"Here's water, water everywhere,
But nothing else to drink!"
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Reminiscences of New Brunswick

THE TILTON MURDER

One Sunday afternoon in the summer of 1862, some boys were passing the time at the foot of King street, east, between Pitt and Crown streets, St. John. While amusing themselves with such facilities as offered, they observed what seemed to be the end of a piece of old board protruding from the ground at a place where the surface of the street had been somewhat worn and washed away. Prompted by a spirit of curiosity or mischief, they pried up the board, when they were surprised and alarmed to find what were evidently the remains of a coffin, containing human bones. A number of people who were attracted to the spot a little later, continued the investigation and were rewarded by finding, close by, what was left of another coffin, with some more bones. There were also some fragments of red cloth and some brass buttons, evidently of military uniform, but so much oxidized that the devices and descriptions on them could not be deciphered. Diligent search then and afterwards failed to disclose any other remains in the vicinity, nor was there any record that the place had ever been used as a burial ground.

A number of more or less plausible theories were advanced at the time, chiefly inclining to the view that there had been hasty burials there during the prevalence of some epidemic in the early history of the city. This idea was combatted however, by the fact that the Old Burial Ground, the regular place of interment, was so near at hand. No satisfactory conclusion was reached by the public, and in a short time the occurrence passed from the minds of the majority of the citizens

There can be no doubt that the remains thus found were those of Henry Baldwin and James Lannon, two soldiers of the 101st regiment, who were hanged on the 23rd day of November, 1808, for the murder of Clayton Tilton. Tilton was the proprietor of the Musquash hotel which stood on the same site as the present hotel, close to the Short Line railway station. The house continued in the hands of the Tilton family for about half a century later. Baldwin and Lannon were deserters, whom Tilton and others attempted to stop on their way out of the country. The men were hanged at what is now the foot of King street, east, but was then the bottom of the eastward slope of the Block House hill. In accordance with the custom of the time, they were buried at the foot of the gallows.

Less than four years ago, the late Henry Melick, then in his 96th year, told me that he was present at the execution, being then a boy twelve years old, and that the event was the first he could remember as having made a vivid impression on his mind.

Baldwin and Lannon, together with Patrick McEvoy, a youth of 18 or 19, deserted from the barracks at Fort Howe, on the 17th of October, 1808, wearing a portion of their uniforms, and Baldwin also carried away a musket. They crossed the river St. John at night, in a small boat, landing on the other side some distance above Pleasant Point, and thence making their way through the woods, they reached the St. Andrews road. A party from the barracks was sent in search of them, but failed to find them as was to be expected from the fact that houses on the road between St. John and Musquash were few and far between. The deserters could easily conceal themselves in the woods by day to avoid their pursuers and follow the road by night. So far as there is any thing to show, they did not risk their safety by approaching anybody until they reached Musquash, when, being in doubt about the course they would take, they called at the house of Ebenezer Scott. This was situated about 200 yards beyond the hotel, on the rise of what is known as Clinch's hill, and I am not sure but that at least a part of the same house is still standing. The story of what followed is pretty fully told in the notes taken by the judge at their trial, a manuscript copy of which I have been able to inspect through the courtesy of Mr. Clarence Ward.

Calling at the house, they asked to be directed on the way to Dippo* Harbor. Scott was away, but his servant, Burditt, gave them the proper direction, which was to keep on their way until they crossed the river, a short distance beyond which they were to take the road which turned to the left. It seems to have been the intention of the men to reach the coast at this point in the hope of finding a boat to take them to Eastport. This would be a much safer plan than an attempt to reach the border by the highway, to say nothing of saving the weary journey on foot.

Burditt readily recognized the men as deserters, and after they had gone he thought it would be a good idea to inform Mr. Tilton. It may be that in doing this he was actuated by a deside to do his duty as a loyal subject, and it may be also that he was not unmindful of the reward which would be paid in event of a capture.

On hearing the story of Burditt, Mr. Tilton accompanied him to the house of Scott, where he got two guns, one of which he handed to Burditt, retaining the other for himself. Tilton's servant, Frederick Shrum, also became one of the party, and they started in pursuit of the deserters.

They did not succeed in tracing them, however, and started to return. On their way they met Lannon, who sat down as if to rest, and was presently joined by his two companions. Baldwin stepped up to Tilton and asked him if he knew the way to Dippo Harbor.

"I do," was the reply, "but you shall not go there."

"Is it your custom to stop people on the highway?" interposed Lannon.

"No," replied Tilton, "but I will not suffer such men as you to go on."

At this juncture Tilton and Burditt, who had been carrying their muskets, put the breeches of them to the ground. Thereupon Lannon pulled a pistol from his breast, and cocked it. Baldwin, carrying the musket he had taken from the barracks, had gone away a little distance.

"Harry, come back," shouted Lannon, "these men will fire on us."

"Mr. Tilton, that man is going to fire," exclaimed Burditt. "See, he is pulling out his pistol."

(Concluded Tomorrow.)

THE MEAT IN THE ST. JOHN MAYORALTY COCOANUT

(Chatham World)

St. John is divided into two hostile camps of fighting men and women over the issues involved in the pending mayoralty election. Apart from the personal antipathies involved, the issue is very simple. St. John has contracted for hydro-electric power, and must buy the St. John Power Co.'s plant or build a new distribution system and steam standby. The company is ready to sell at a price to be determined by arbitration, and the candidate for Mayor McLellan's seat proposes to pay only what a court order fixed as the original cost of the system some years ago. Mayor McLellan is to be unseated, should his opponents win, because he favors arbitration proceedings for fixing the amount to be paid to the company for its property. The organized hold-up men purpose, if the company refuses to accept the offer, to build a new distribution system and thereby destroy the value of the company's property.

If it was a question between two men of business the point to be agreed on would not be the original cost of the property but its present value, and that value is necessarily the amount it would cost to replace it, less deterioration. If it would cost, say, $3,500,000 to duplicate the system, and if $500,000 be allowed for deterioration, the present value would be $3,000,000 without any reference whatever to the original cost.

Should Mr. Fisher be elected, and proceed to carry out his programme of purchasing the Power Company's property at his own price under threat to render it valueless by building a duplicate system, St. John will be eternally blackballed in the financial world.

The Coughs And Colds Of Children

Only the mother knows how hard it is to keep the children from taking cold, they will get overheated and cool off too suddenly, get their feet wet, kick off the clothes at night, and do a dozen and one things the mother can't prevent.

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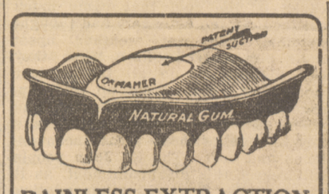
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