

The Standard



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SAINT JOHN, TUESDAY MORNING, FEB. 7, 1911

THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Where is St. John's Board of Trade, and what does it propose to do about this Taft-Fielding agreement? It is, or should be, the commercial conscience of this city in particular and the province in general. To it men look for guidance and direction. Other Boards of Trade in other cities of Canada are alive, and speaking from Victoria to Sydney. Why this strange apathy and silence in this great seaport and metropolis? Are we not interested, have we nothing at stake, nothing that is threatened, nothing that is worth defending?

For example as a local matter, why has lime been left out of the arrangement if it has to go through? Where was Mr. Pugsley who knew all that was going on from day to day, whilst no living soul in this constituency was advised or consulted with? Has the Board of Trade no question to ask of Mr. Pugsley? Have the great labor and producing interests, which would have been vitally interested in anything which would revive the lime business, no question to ask, no action to take? Mr. Fielding looked after his coal and iron interests; where are we to find any evidence of his solicitude for this important New Brunswick interest? If it has been neglected by the Government, should not the people beset themselves to know why, and if possible to remedy the omission?

Then St. John and the province are strongly interested in the routes of trade, and the seaports it shall frequent. Portland, Maine, is alive with joyful anticipation of coming greatness if reciprocity is accepted. The reason is that it hopes for increased prosperity and extension as the result of increased business growing out of changed conditions. Western advocates of the proposal favor it because it will turn grain and cattle south to Minneapolis, St. Paul, Chicago, Boston and New York. How will all this affect the through trade via St. John and the future of the Winter Port?

These questions if important should be answered now, and if action depends on the answer, it should not be delayed. The fate of the measure will be decided within a few weeks. After that, asking questions and giving answers will avail nothing. If Parliament and Congress have enacted the legislation which gives vitality to the proposed arrangement. Has not the Board of Trade some duty in the premises?

ULTIMATE RESULTS IN EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGNS.

There are many earnest Christians who do not believe in the efficacy of evangelical campaigns, but who rarely intrude their opinions on the public because they lay themselves open to the charge of opposing a movement which is intended by those who advocate and support it to bring wanderers into the fold and cause a spiritual awakening in a community. They do not deny that the presence of a noted evangelist, or of a band of evangelists, strangers to the people, arouses interest, and that the unusual method of treating religious subjects which is generally adopted attracts thousands to the meetings, but there always remains in the minds of those who cherish an old-fashioned belief in the efficacy of the earnest and prayerful work of a pastor among his flock, a passive scepticism as to the permanency of the results.

During the past twelve months, St. John has had two, in fact three evangelical campaigns if the sermon of Mr. Herbert Booth is included, and, if we may judge by the attendance at the meetings to hear the message of the evangelists, unique opportunities were offered to touch the hearts of thousands and make them henceforth earnest workers in the Christian cause. At a conservative estimate not less than \$8,000 was contributed to support the campaigns and the time of hundreds of workers was freely given to the same end. The number of conversions, those who declared their determination to lead a new life, was said to be very large. If we remember rightly in the last campaign the figures ran to upwards of a thousand. A united effort was made that the labors of the evangelists might leave a lasting impression on the life of the community.

In the light of these facts the purport of a letter from Mr. A. T. B. Howard which appeared in an afternoon paper yesterday, is an interesting, and perhaps, instructive commentary. Mr. Howard, who, we judge, was an enthusiastic worker in the last campaign, writes as follows:

"I wish to explain to my Christian friends my failure to carry out the promise I made them at the time of the Torrey meetings. At that time I said that there would be a praying band organized, composed of one hundred men and youths, to visit the different churches each week, to assist the regular meetings that are regularly held in this city for the strengthening of the saints, for encouraging of new beginners, and converting of sinners. The plan was to have a number of the band available every week, but I find that the active members of all the churches are very few. The majority of Christian men and women are silent. In the Torrey meetings thousands of Christians attended, but only scores worked. There are very few personal workers in any church. As a rule Christians let the minister do the work. The reasons for the band failure are that all the praying men and women have as much work as they can attend to already; each church has several meetings each week, and what with

churches, King's Daughters, Y. M. C. A., the Every Day Club, Foresters, Oddfellows, Knights of Pythias, Seamen's Mission, Salvation Army, Orangemen, Temperance Societies, Bible Society, orphanages and social gatherings, all of our Christian people are busy, and I fail to see where we could get the band in edge-ways, so I've entirely given the band idea up."

The Standard is not condemning evangelistic campaigns, neither is it supporting them, but the failure of Mr. Howard to secure a band of active workers out of the hundreds, and possibly thousands, who, during the religious enthusiasm engendered by the campaigns professed conversion, raises one or two pertinent questions. Where, now, it might be asked, are the hundreds of recruits that under the eloquence of the evangelists rallied to the colors during the campaigns? Have they deserted, and if so at whose door lies the blame? Was there no organized system of following up these men and women converts? Have the results justified the time and money contributed? Finally, is not the admission of failure in Mr. Howard's letter an argument for those who contend that such campaigns have all the charm of novelty for the crowd, but are not to be compared with the earnest and consistent work of a pastor among his people in producing permanent and lasting results?

At first sight it would appear that, as far as St. John is concerned, the many earnest Christians who do not believe in the efficacy of evangelical campaigns have some grounds for their contention. The information at hand leaves that view open. Advocates of this movement, and especially the pastors who took part in it, may, on the other hand, have equally strong arguments which will put another construction on the case.

A RECORD YEAR.

The statement of the city's financial standing embodied in the reports of Mr. Duncan G. Lingley, the Chamberlain, and Mr. Adam McIntyre, the Comptroller, will be received with general satisfaction by the taxpayers. From a financial standpoint St. John has had a most successful year, in fact the collection of taxes exceeds that of any previous year, and establishes a new record in the city's history. On general assessment there was a gain of \$39,674.15, and the harbor revenues contributed an additional sum of \$5,220.35 over the total for 1909, indicating the growth and development of the Winter Port. The collections on default taxes, which have been prosecuted with vigor during the last few years, fell away by \$19,538.37, an indication that much of the arrears has been gathered in, and that the citizens are realizing the advantages of prompt payments. In rentals and water assessments there have been a slight decrease, but a final balance on all counts of \$27,777.27 above the total twelve months ago is the gratifying result.

The sinking funds, which are the basis on which the stability of a corporation rests, are well up to the standard. The bond investment account shows the high class of securities which the city holds. Bonds to the amount of \$79,000 matured during the year, and of this amount \$78,000 was paid out of the sinking fund and the remainder will be retired when presented. Not the least noteworthy feature in the year's showing is that a capital expenditure of nearly \$27,000 for renewing water mains was paid for out of a surplus on water revenue, and that with other items, no less than \$44,000 of the year's revenue was devoted to capital expenditures.

The funded debt on December 31 last stood at \$5,064,435.51, to which must be added other liabilities, bringing the total to \$5,094,220.37. Against this are assets of \$7,161,379.69 leaving a substantial balance of \$2,067,159.32 to the credit of the city. It is also satisfactory to note that during the year the city lived within its income in all departments of the service.

When we review the strong financial position in which St. John stands today under the present system of civic government we are forced to the conclusion that, merely for the sake of carrying out some reforms which are needed in other departments and reducing the membership of the council, the present campaign to revolutionize the form of government and establish a commission has not sufficient warrant to commend it to the great majority of the citizens. The conditions which prevailed in Cedar Rapids, as related by Mr. Sherman in our news columns, and which led to the drastic remedy of a commission, have no parallel in this thriving and prosperous city.

The Standard notes with satisfaction that commissioners in Cedar Rapids under the form of government proposed for St. John are not required to give their whole time to the city's business. For maintaining that the plan, as outlined by the Advertising Committee of the Board of Trade, would prevent many responsible and representative citizens from taking their share in the government of the city The Standard has been called reactionary and roundly abused. It seems that the knowledge possessed by advocates of the commission plan leaves much to be desired. Mr. Sherman, who speaks in the Opera House tonight, is in a position to give much accurate and authentic information as to the causes which gave rise to its adoption in Cedar Rapids and as to the system now in operation.

Current Comment

(Boston Transcript.)

Fifty years ago if a hotel refused to shelter the dog of a leading actress, it was ten to one that the nation at large never heard of the occurrence. Now, such is the progress of news collection, the day after the exclusion of the dog, from Maine to Texas millions of readers can almost hear the sobs of the actress aforesaid.

(London Free Press.)

The Cincinnati Commercial Tribune pictures Uncle Sam and Miss Canada locked in an embrace, with the tariff gate wide open, and John Bull saying, "My word, she might elope with him." The thought of Canadian annexation is not far from the mind of the United States.

(Gait Reporter.)

Our Ontario fruit growers will find, under the Fielding-Taft arrangement, that the growers of Michigan and the southern states are very much alive to the value of the Ontario market. They will rush in their early supplies and then fight it out for the trade when our small fruits are ripening late in June and July.

(Calgary Herald.)

And the United States is willing to reduce its duty on pulpwood if Canada will reduce its duty on paper! Thus the States could rob us of our pulpwood and sell us back the paper made from it. Such generosity astounds us.

(New York World.)

There are 5,288 fewer saloons in New York State than in 1896, and probably 2,400,000 more people. We might welcome a great many more people and be better off with another 5,000 reduction in the number of saloons.

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Make it Active and Healthy With "Fruit-a-lives"

Don't treat the Liver with common purgatives. Salts, senna, calomel and the host of "liver pills" do not act on the liver at all. They merely irritate the bowels.

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50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size, 25c.

At all dealers, or from Fruit-a-lives Limited, Ottawa.

IN THE COURTS

Evidence Taken in Case of Robert Campbell vs. Donaldson Bros.—Defense Opens This Morning.

The case of Robert Campbell vs. Donaldson Bros., occupied the attention of Mr. Justice McKeown at the adjourned sittings of the January Circuit Court yesterday, and it is likely that the case will be concluded today.

The plaintiff who was employed on the S. S. Almore on November 23, 1909, was guiding the hoisting bucket used in hoisting coal, when the rope bucket used in this connection broke and gave way, and the plaintiff was thrown from the scaffolding to the deck of the steamship and injured. He claims that the rope bucket was supplied by the defendants, and was, by the negligence and default of the defendants, insufficient and defective. He asks for \$10,000 damages, or alternatively, claims under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

When the court opened, John B. Baxter, K. C., for the plaintiff, suggested that the case might be tried by its Honor without a jury, Fred R. Taylor, for the defendants, agreed, and the services of the jury were dispensed with. Arthur Hoyt, James Moore and Joseph Murphy and the plaintiff testified yesterday morning. Shortly before noon the court rose to meet in the Admiralty.

Afternoon Session.

When the court met in the afternoon at the Admiralty Court rooms at half past two o'clock, Richard Callahan, Dr. G. O. Baxter and Harold Schofield, manager of the Robert Reed Coal Co. were examined. Dr. Baxter told of the injuries received by the plaintiff. He examined him afterwards and found that he was only fit for light work. Under cross-examination by Mr. Taylor, he said that he and Dr. Bentley disagreed as to Campbell's condition. Dr. Bentley coming to the conclusion that the man was shamming.

This closed the plaintiff's case and Mr. Taylor moved to have a verdict entered for the defendants, but His Honor refused the motion.

When the court resumes this morning at eleven o'clock the defendants will commence their case.

Probate Court.

At the opening of the regular weekly sittings of the Probate Court yesterday morning, Judge Armstrong referred in feeling terms to the death of Robert O. Stockton, who for a long time had been a member of the bar, and whose sudden death was most unlooked for.

Estate of Louis Nelson.

Estate of Louis Nelson, hotel keeper. Return of citation to pass the accounts of the administratrix and for order for distribution. The accounts as presented, after some slight changes, are duly passed and order for distribution of the assets among the various creditors. H. H. Pickett, proctor for the administratrix. Dr. W. B. Wallace, K. C., proctor for two of the principal creditors.

Estate of Eliza C. Brown.

Estate of Eliza C. Brown. Return of citation to pass the accounts of the administrator, and for order for distribution. The accounts as presented are duly passed and allowed and order made for distribution among the next of kin. Joseph Porter, proctor for the administrator.

Elaborate Performance.

The list of chaperones and patronesses of the production of The Man From Albany as published yesterday was not complete. The completed list is as follows:—Mrs. J. McAvity, Mrs. James Humphrey, Mrs. George West Jones, Mrs. J. V. Anglin, E. A. Smith, Mrs. J. H. Frink, Mrs. D. George Clark, Mrs. J. R. Miller, Mrs. Harold Porter, Mrs. E. B. Hooper, Mrs. E. J. Fleetwood, Mrs. E. T. Sturdee, Mrs. C. I. Dunfield. A full rehearsal of the cast and choruses was held last evening, and it is safe to say that the forthcoming performance will be the most elaborate ever attempted by Mr. Bird.

Lord Northcliffe On Seasickness

Gentlemen:—Your letter of the 14th of September reached me on my return to England from a journey to Newfoundland and back, during which I have seen and heard abundant evidence of the fact that Motherall's Sealeak Remedy appears to be, in nineteen cases out of twenty, an absolute cure for mal-de-mer, and also for what Americans call "Car-Sickness." I have taken it on many occasions, with excellent effect, and no after-effect. You are quite at liberty to make use of this letter, or I think it a duty to express my opinion on the subject. Yours truly,

BUTTON PLACE, by Guildford Surrey, England.

Motherall's Remedy Quickly Cures Sea or Train Sickness. Guaranteed safe and harmless, 50c. and \$1.00 a box at all Drug Stores and Drug Departments. If your druggist does not have it in stock he can get it for you from any Wholesale Druggist in Canada. Motherall Remedy Co., Ltd., Detroit, Mich., U. S. A.

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If you want special advice write for it to Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass. It is free and always helpful.

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