The Standard

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SAINT JOHN, WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 14, 1909.

WATCH OUT FOR THIS.

While Mr. Emmerson was spending his Easter vacation in Westmorland a significant double headed editorial article appeared in the Moncton Transcript, with which he is said to be in close relations. The Transcript begins by mentioning the report that Mr. Emmerson is to be appointed to the bench, and then objects to the appointment on the score that he is needed to carry on the Intercolonial "forward policy." The Transcript then proceeds to speak of an organized and determined effort by Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann to absorb the Intercolonial from Moncton to Ste Rosalie. It is charged that some of the Nova Scotia members are not so steadfast for the people's rights as they should be. Then the Transcript proceeds to the heart of the matter:—

"There are disturbing rumors persistently current and one of these runs to the effect that **ON OR ABOUT OCTOBER 23RD, SOME KIND OF A PROMISE WAS MADE TO THE CANADIAN NORTHERN PEOPLE** tantamount to a renunciation of Government operation or control if not ownership of the Intercolonial Railway from Ste Rosalie eastward to Moncton, and rumor says further that **IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER THAT UNDERSTANDING WAS RENEWED.**

"It is improbable that any one in authority even tacitly consented to any understanding of this character. But the rumors are so persistent that they have been hinted at in the House of Commons and definitely stated in the Senate. Beyond that an agitation was started and promoted by a newspaper, of which a prominent Liberal is commonly reported to be a considerable proprietor, looking in that very direction."

The Transcript hopes that these reports will be authoritatively contradicted. In any case it rejoices that Mr. Emmerson is in Parliament, and hopes he will remain there to champion the people's railway.

So far the Transcript which is a strong Liberal paper. The Standard has heard of these election promises. It has also heard that Mr. Emmerson had a distinct promise before the election that his branch line policy would be taken up, but that he had since been told by ministers that further agitation in that direction by him would be regarded as an unfriendly act. If Mr. Emmerson should be called to a judgeship one purpose may be to remove an obstacle to the sale or lease of the railway.

Meanwhile it is well known that Mr. Pugsley has promised the judgeship to Mr. McKeown.

SWINBURNE.

It will be said that Swinburne was the last of the Great Victorian poets, and that he has stood alone as a master of English poetic melody since Tennyson died. For that matter it will be admitted that Tennyson had no such power as Swinburne to bring out the musical possibilities of English verse. Yet while Tennyson grew in grace and favor, made a profound impression upon his generation, and is no less familiar to this century than he was to the last, Swinburne is known only to a small class, and less than he was in his own middle life. Browning grows greater with the passing years in spite of his obscurities, and the discordant music of his lines. Yet one can well imagine a stranger to all three picking up a few choice passages from each, and concluding that the other two were poor craftsmen compared to Swinburne.

Many reasons will be given why a poet with such a power of harmonious expression, such splendor of illustration and description, such appeal to the senses, combined with so much of classic charm and lighter fancy, should have so nearly failed to attain popularity. It is true that a storm of protest followed the publication of the volume of lyrics which was issued soon after the Atalanta. It is true also that some of these poems found no justification to the normal, well regulated mind in their rare beauty or melody. But this did not deprive Swinburne of popularity. While it is impossible to conceive of him presenting the same pictures without adornment, had he done so he would even then have been a prude compared to Walt Whitman who had a popularity denied to Swinburne.

Where Swinburne came short of popularity, it was probably not so much due to his alleged offences against delicacy, as to the lack of human interest in his themes. There is no message in his work that appeals to mankind. A luxurious lyric may please for the time, but it has no echo in human aspiration, and does not tempt to many returns. Swinburne hardly stands for anything more than beauty and sensuous joy. The heroic note of Tennyson is not with him, nor the charm of sweet domestic loves, and the simple life. In a lofty passage of his discourse against prelatry, Milton condemns the poet who uses his gifts when a vain subject is to be adorned or beautified, but for whose voice God listens in vain when a great cause is to be pleaded. Swinburne adorned many vain, and worse than vain subjects, and he gives a fleeting delight to those who fall under his charm only to turn when satiated to others more permanently satisfying.

A STRONG HINT.

Sometimes the Toronto Globe shows great cleverness. In its leader of Monday it devotes half a column to savage and wholly slanderous abuse of Mr. Pugsley's political opponents in New Brunswick. This is mingled with praise of Mr. Pugsley's courtesy, but with no expressions of confidence in his integrity as an administrator. The whole is preliminary to a paragraph which speaks of further proceedings in the case, and makes it clear that Mr. Pugsley must get out of the Government while the affair is pending. This is the language:—

"Mr. Pugsley's enemies will thus succeed in depriving the province, during the investigation, of the services in the Dominion Cabinet of one of the ablest men who has ever represented it there. What will that profit them? They probably flatter themselves that they have wounded a political foe. Mr. Pugsley enjoyed the most lucrative practice in the maritime Provinces. He can undoubtedly return to it. So that the only sufferers will be his own province, which loses his services in the Dominion Cabinet, and the country, which loses the full activities of a singularly well-equipped public man."

It will be readily seen that the chief Government organ has taken this roundabout way to invite Mr. Pugsley to resign. All the rest is sugar coat to this bitter but wholesome pill.

A REHEARSAL.

Chieftain: "Are the records destroyed?"

Band: "They are Captain."

Chieftain: "Where are the cheques?"

Band: "We got them all from the banks and burned them."

Chieftain: "Manager, have you any accounts?"

Manager: "No. I did not keep any, except a few with the first letters of people's names, and I am prepared to swear that I do not know what these mean."

Chieftain: "How are your memories?"

Band: "We have none left."

Chieftain: "You are sure you have forgotten all?"

Band: "Our minds are a beautiful and convenient blank, like your own."

Chieftain: "Does any one know what 'W. P' stands for?"

Band: "We haven't the least idea."

Chieftain: "Or also who got the 430 shares?"

Band: "We don't remember."

Chieftain: "Of course you can't account for the $134,000."

Band: "Not at all."

Chieftain: "Sure all records are gone and all memory vanished?"

Band: "Yes, Yes!"

Chieftain: "Then all join me in the cry: 'why didn't they ask for an accounting?'"

WHY NOT DISGORGE?

The Central Railway report recalls to the Toronto News a familiar name, and leads up to certain obvious remarks:—

"The name of McAvity, however, suggests a gross failure of duty on the part of the Ottawa Government. It seems to be established beyond question that $35,900 of public money was improperly taken out of the Federal treasury by manipulation of a contract and that this amount found its way into the pockets of McAvity. Why is he not compelled to disgorge? If the Government fails to act, there seems to be only one conclusion to reach, and that is that it dare not act for fear of worse revelations to follow."

Judge Landry finds himself accused of partisanship, stupidity, carelessness, slander, and various other offences because his report on the Central Railway condemns certain politicians. The judge should make allowances for these outbursts. What the Pugsley organs say of him is not half so bad as their attack on Chief Justice Tuck, after his judgment in the Rothsay forgery case. That hit the same persons, and if Mr. Pugsley could have had his way the former Chief Justice would have not have remained much longer on the bench.

RATHER UNGRACIOUS.

Since the exposure of the $36,000 rake off, obtained by one of its chief proprietors, the Telegraph has lost no chance to sneer at Mr. Mayes, who refused to keep the secret. A sample of this vindictiveness was furnished when the Telegraph gave large editorial space to derision of certain school prizes offered by Mr. Mayes. These three premiums, amounting to $15, were offered to schools with which Mr. Mayes was acquainted, he leaving to teachers and Board the arrangement of details. The Telegraph thereupon reduced the $15 to $5, falsely suggested an unwillingness of the Board to take the money, and then on its own account bestowed a fine assortment of sneers and jeers upon the donor.

Last evening the School Board accepted the prizes with thanks, while trustees expressed their own opinion of the Telegraph's behavior. Before this time no St. John man who offered a prize to schools in the town had been rewarded in such fashion. It may be hoped that those contemplating similar offerings will not be intimidated by the Telegraph's novel method of recognition.

In four weeks Newfoundland will have another general election. That of last year resulted in a tie, and no Speaker could be elected. Sir Robert Bond struggled with this problem, and gave it up. Then Mr. Morris, leader of the Opposition was called. He failed, and asked the Governor to dissolve the House. Governor MacGregor did not wish to throw the colony into the state of frenzy that an election produces in that island. He called upon all the available former premiers, but none would undertake to be Premier. Thereupon he gave Mr. Morris a dissolution, as the only course left. The new Premier goes to the country under better auspices than last year.

Attention has been called to the fine haul which A. B. Copp, M. P. P., got out of the Central Railway for no corresponding service. The payments were $1,050 in 1905, and $875 in 1908. In the opinion of the Commissioners Mr. Copp "had not prepared himself to do work "of any value and his achievements were according to "his preparation."

An examination of the Dominion Government accounts for 1907 shows that Mr. Copp was performing other public service in 1906: He held an inquiry into the conduct of Captain Pratt of the Curlew, and was paid $25 per day for 36 days with $50 for making the report and $221 travelling expenses in all $1,171.

The Chatham World has not yet become satisfied with Mr. Burchill as a representative of Northumberland. Mr. Burchill's vote with the Government last week proves nothing to the World, as it was only a vote against an adjournment which would have allowed Mr. Copp a chance to speak. The World thinks that this vote was prompted entirely by a selfish desire to escape a Copp oration.

The so called Citizens' Ticket seems to have fallen by some untoward accident into the hands of a small ring with interests of their own. These nomination papers were prepared and filed by an attorney, apparently acting for a political combination. Their organization is in charge of a party manager. The citizens of St. John do not appear to be taking much interest in the experiment.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier says that he has not yet seen the Central Railway report and therefore is not in a position to say what he will do about it. The Premier is evidently not in a hurry to get the facts in this case. Time can wait better than it could six years ago.

Hug-the-machine Preston is suing a paper in Japan for libel. It seems impossible to find any country where Mr. Preston's reputation is safe.

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TELEGRAPH AND STAR REBUKED

(Continued from Page 8)

Charles Harrington, a boy truant, occupied some time.

Mr. Emerson said that the methods of Truant Officer McMann and of the police had been unduly criticized by the "Star." He felt that the board should do something toward strengthening the hands of the officer. An editorial extract from the "Star" was read. That paper, Mr. Emerson said, had reflected very adversely upon the action of the police officers who had arrested the lad. Much discussion had followed, and the result of the affair was that the leniency shown the lad had made the boys who had a tendency toward truancy fall back into their old habits.

The boy had disobeyed the summons to appear in court, given after continued truancy, and had in consequence been arrested one morning between 4 o'clock and 5.

Truant Officer McMann was heard. The proceeding in the boy's arrest had been the same as usual. It rested with the police to serve the warrants when they became necessary. The officers said they thought it better to arrest the boy in the morning, rather than at night, as in the latter case the lad had to sleep in the common cells. Harrington was out on a sentence of 4 years in penitentiary. Since the Star article was written the boy had left school again and had never returned. His father had proposed to send him to his uncle in Fredericton, but the boy had said he would remain in the city, but would not go to school.

Harrington Will Go to School

This morning, however, Harrington had come to him, seemingly repentant, and had promised to attend school on Wednesday.

The police were in the habit of making such arrests between 4 o'clock and 5 because if they didn't get the boys while the boys were in bed, they couldn't get them at all.

He had been reproached by the police, who said that their only reward for helping him was a call-down in the press. The Star was "down on" the police, anyway, they had said. When he went to see the editor of the paper he had been told that "we all played truant the same way," and the matter "was a small affair."

Opinion of the Board

Mr. Emerson said it was the opinion of the board that Mr. McMann was not a harsh officer and that he did his duty in proper form. After the summons was issued the matter was in the hands of the police.

The remark of Dr. Bridges that the carrying out of the compulsory attendance law in St. John was anything but a farce, was concurred in by the board.

Mr. McMann stated further that on visiting the Victoria school, he had found a boy named Tufts, and a boy named Richardson were chronically absent. He did not suppose they had returned yet.

Mr. Coll moved that tenders be asked for the printing of the annual report of the school board. This was seconded and carried.

Mr. Russell moved that the bills on the table be referred to the buildings committee and if found correct that they be referred to the finance committee for payment.

Who Will Pay?

Mr. Coll wanted to know who was to pay the cartage bills which arose from the disinfection of school buildings by the Board of Health. These bills had been much more numerous than formerly. It had been usual for the Board of Health to pay the cartage bills, amounting to 40 cents for each school. Mr. Coll was given the power to see the Board of Health and make a decision in the matter.

Boys Don't Fit the Seats

Dr. Bridges stated that the boys of grade 9 in the high school were altogether too big for the seats. The pupils of this class were much better developed than those of a few years ago. He was pained every time he went into the school to see the position of the boys. He thought it was very injurious for a boy to sit at a desk under which he could not get his legs. The set of furniture was an old one anyway. It was moved that new seats be procured.

Salary Increases

Mr. Russell brought up the question of the proposed increase in teachers' salaries. The estimates of the board had been passed by the council and the increases could now be made. It was left in the power of Inspector Bridges to determine when the increases should be given.

Miss Gilmour's Death

At a teachers' meeting which followed that of the school board, a resolution of condolence, to be sent to Mrs. R. B. Gilmour, was passed, in reference to the death of her daughter, a late member of the teaching staff.

IN THE COURTS

Probate.

Estate of Jesse Thomas Cook, an infant. Petition for appointment of guardian for estate of the infant. The infant's father, Captain Valentine Cook and the mother having died, Harry C. Green and Draxey A. Green, his wife, the latter being a maternal aunt, are appointed guardians of the estate, which is valued at $700. Messrs. Powell and Harrison, proctor.

Estate of George T. Clark, of the parish of Lancaster, farmer. Last will proved whereby the deceased gives to Mrs. Jessie L. Busby, daughter of the late Honorable Isaac Burpee, the clock in his house formerly belonging to the late Mr. Richard Thomson. The rest of his property he gives to his wife, Rosina B. Clark, and appoints her and Alfred Clark, a brother, and Samuel A. Warrell, of Fairville, teacher, executors. The two renounce and the widow is sworn in as sole executrix. Real estate $6,000; personal estate $2,000. Messrs. Hanington and Hanington, proctor.

County Court Chambers.

In Chambers yesterday morning judgment was signed in Joseph Amyot vs. Pierre M. Lanteigne for $265.55, no appearance having been put in.

This morning at 11 o'clock in Chambers, His Honor Judge Forbes will announce his decision in the Rich case.

CARD OF THANKS.

Mrs. Smith and family wish to return sincere thanks to the many friends for kindness and deep sympathy shown in their bereavement by the decease of the late William H. Smith.

DEATHS

Roden—In this city on the 13th inst, after a lingering illness, Annie, widow of the late Francis Roden, leaving six daughters and one son to mourn their sad loss.
Notice of funeral hereafter.

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NOTICE.

A Bill will be submitted by the City of Saint John to the Legislature of New Brunswck during its present sitting to amend the Act Chapter 59 of 5th Edward VII., intitled "An Act to further empower the City of Saint John to supply water to Saint John East,' so as to permit the City to take as much water from Lake Robertson as the City may choose to do for the purpose of maintaining the height of Lake Latimer at all times up to the level at which the same can now be done when sufficent water flows into the lake to effect such purpose, with a view and to the intent of sending forward to the City such adequate supply of water from Lake Latimer as said level will afford.

Dated March 26, 1909.
Herbert E. Wardroper,
6-4-17-a Common Clerk.

EXECUTORS' NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that letters testamentary of the last will and testament of William H. Nase, late of the City of Saint John, merchant, deceased, have been granted to the undersigned executors. All persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment at the office of the undersigned solicitors and all persons having claims against the estate are requested to file the same duly attested with the said solicitors.

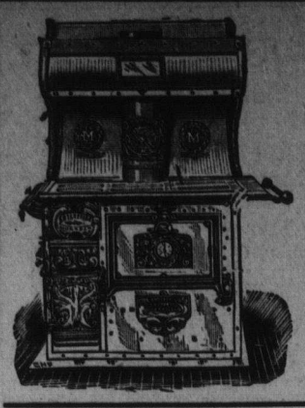
Dated this eighth day of April, A. D. 1909.

WALTER M. FLEMING,
WILLIAM A. EWING.
Executors.
BARNHILL, EWING & SANFORD.
Solicitors. 4-8-7i

Buried Yesterday

The funeral of Mr. Thomas Smith took place yesterday afternoon from his late residence, 45 Lombard street. Rev. G. Swim conducted the funeral services. Interment was in Cedar Hill cemetery.

The remains of Mr. L. D. Parks were interred in Cedar Hill cemetery yesterday, the funeral being from his late residence, Elm street. Rev. Neil McLaughlin officiated at the funeral services.



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