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ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. S., JUNE 13, 1901.

PUBLIC OPINION.

One of the speakers at the meeting of the Fabian League on Tuesday evening said that there was no such thing as a well considered public opinion in St. John with reference to civic affairs. There is always excitement over a federal election, or in a provincial campaign, but civic affairs excite no interest, and very little discussion. The speaker gave as a reason for this that the business men are so much absorbed to their own private business affairs that they pay little attention to what is being done by the city council, and therefore when any important matter is up for settlement there is, as a rule, no general expression of opinion.

These remarks are doubtless in a large measure true. It is not the most healthy state of affairs that could exist. If the shrewd merchants of St. John, who make a success of their own business, could spare time enough to get together at regular intervals and discuss the various questions with which the city council has to deal, they would materially benefit the city. The questions of taxation, street improvement, water and light, wharf extension and others that are continually up for consideration by the council, would be all the more intelligently dealt with if business men generally familiarized themselves with the conditions and the needs, and gave some personal thought to the problem of how best to institute reform.

STREET RAILWAY COMPANY.

The Street Railway Co. have held their annual meeting and we are informed that a very satisfactory report has been submitted. It is announced that the line will be extended to the suspension bridge "as soon as satisfactory arrangements can be made with the city." It is now the duty of the city council, representing the citizens, to find out what arrangements will be satisfactory, and if they are such as the city can accept. We are also told that extension to the park will be made if it can be made safe to the public. As there are no towering mountains or yawning chasms in the way we may hope that the extension will be made. It is gratifying to know that the company's report is satisfactory. That should stimulate the members to make still greater effort in meeting the wants of their patrons.

A DEADLOCK.

If any of the people of Charlottetown supposed that the passage of the prohibition act by the local legislature would bring prohibition they have had an early awakening. The city council has warned its officers to take no steps whatever toward enforcing the act. The act, it says, was passed without consulting the council, and now the government can go ahead and enforce it. The council doubts the constitutionality of the act. The attitude of the council is severely criticised by a portion of the city press, but the resolutions refusing to aid in enforcing the act have been adopted, and there the matter rests.

It now remains for the provincial government to go ahead and enforce the law. Premier Farquharson recently declared that they had the law and the machinery and that there would be rigid enforcement. It will no doubt be expensive, but the premier will probably feel that his word must be kept.

WHAT MR. CRIMMINS THINKS.

John D. Crimmins, a probable candidate for mayor in New York, makes the emphatic statement that raids on gambling houses do no good whatever. Nothing has been accomplished by the many arrests, and the funds are simply being wasted. Gambling will never be suppressed, says Mr. Crimmins, though it may in time become localised.

"You see," said Mr. Crimmins, in conclusion, "men are yet far from being perfect creatures. We might as well realize at the outset that we cannot perform the impossible. Men have always gambled and they always will, in spite of Justice Jerome and his raids."

A WORD IN SEASON.

The New York Mail and Express is wise in its generation, and very kindly gives others the benefit of this wisdom in the following article:

One probable effect of the stories of vast American prosperity which have been circulated abroad is sighted and guarded against in advance "by" the German consul in Cincinnati. Anticipating a renewal of the extensive immigration movement from the empire, which has fallen off in the last decade, he warns his countrymen that they must not come hither in the expectation of sharing easily and inevitably in the general prosperity. The warning is timely and it will be well if it is repeated. In other countries enterprise will be long work a ferment of migratory unrest. There is a place here for skilled hands and thinking heads and for these the reward is richer than it ever was, but the progress which American enterprise has

achieved is just because hard and head are more efficient for their particular tasks than they were. The ignorant immigrant will encounter a competition that will put him at greater disadvantage than he would have been a decade ago.

In an interview in London the Hon. Sydney Fisher, who is now visiting England, stated that the tide of emigration to the United States had practically ceased, and the minister further stated that emigration from the United States to Canada is now commencing. Mr. Fisher should have waited for the census figures. If the rumors floating about in the press be true, he will have some trouble to locate this large increase in the population of Canada.

There are six grades of Red House tea. They all have the distinctive character that made the original one grade of Red House so popular all over the province.

TRADE IN FIRE WOOD.

It is Quite an Important Industry Along the River.

With the approach of warm weather the local trade in firewood at Indiantown is gradually decreasing. Quite a number of saws and woodboats continue to bring loads down the river, but it is for the most part consigned to or bought by Stetson, Cutler & Co., or Purdy & Green, who are as usual laying in a large stock for their kilns. This branch of the industry will probably continue for the greater part of the summer.

The best wood for ordinary household use is the rock maple, which sells, sawed and delivered, for \$2.35 per cord, or 49 per cord. The next grade is white birch, which runs on the average at about one dollar per cord less than the maple.

But this wood, besides being rather expensive, is almost too productive of heat for summer use, and housekeepers are now using a considerable quantity of maple wood, which in this weather serves the purpose fully as well as hardwood.

Most of the birch and maple that is brought to Indiantown comes from different points on the river, below Gagetown, where the soft wood is chiefly from the Grand Lake and Washademoak districts. The captains of the woodboats as a rule buy their load outright from the farmers up river and make their own bargain for the sale of it when they arrive at Indiantown. These woodboats carry anywhere from thirty to fifty cords, while the ones running to Rockland, Me., take as much as eighty cords or more.

The wood supply up river is now practically unlimited, and the lumbermen dread the effects of the pulp mills. For these mills young spruce is cut, and this will doubtless prove very hurtful to the industry in the future.

On the river steamers wood is almost altogether used for steaming purposes. The cost of wood is regulated by that of coal, and for this reason there is never any great difference in the price. But for a passenger boat, wood is greatly preferred. It is much cleaner, can be taken on board at almost any of the wharves at which the steamers call, and besides is more economical in the long run, as it practices less injury to the grate bars. Being a clean burning substance it does not clog, and on this account a set of grate bars will last much longer than when coal is used.

The tugboats are of course almost altogether used for going on long trips they would be utterly unable to carry a sufficient quantity of wood. A few of the larger ones, which have ample deck room, use wood, but the greater majority burn Nova Scotia coal. The tugboats are now selling at the Indiantown wharves for \$5.25 per cord for white birch and from \$5 to \$6.50 for rock maple, in lengths.

East and west the people praise Red Rose tea.

ST. STEPHEN MAN'S DEATH.

John W. Smith, of St. Stephen, N. B., died at Toppfield, Me., on June 7. Mr. Smith had for the past 30 years looked after the lands of C. F. Todd and a son, H. P. Todd, and Sons, of Calais, in whose employ he was when he died. He lived when up in that section in one of Eaton's houses, cooking and boarding himself. June 5 he was in the early part of the morning, and later in the day went to Princeton, returning at night in his usual good health. Early Friday morning, David Riox and wife called at the house where Smith lived and found him in a critical condition. They at once notified Dr. C. B. Johnson, but he could get there he was dead. His remains were taken home at once.

The best tea on the market is Red Rose.

LOCAL UNION OF C. E.

The annual meeting of the local union of Christian Endeavor will be held this afternoon and evening in the Leinster Street Baptist church. At this evening's session President D. Smith will preside and the programme will be: Devotional exercises. Reading of minutes and unfinished business. Treasurer's report, D. Hunt. Secretary's report, W. J. McAlary. Report of nominating committee and new business. Reports from societies. Address by Rev. J. D. Freeman. Roll call of societies and responses. Special music. Consecration service.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

Some fifty or sixty friends of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hunt went off from the city last evening to their summer home at Drury Cove to assist them in celebrating the tenth anniversary of their wedding. A very pleasant evening was spent on the water in yachts and row boats. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt received a large number of presents from their friends. The city people returned on the late suburban

FRANK C. BROWN

St. John, Man. Writes of the Experiences of the Canadians.

The Trip From Cape Town to Heidelberg—A Force of Boers Eight Miles Away.

HEIDELBERG, Transvaal, May 6, 1901.

Dear Mother—I am now in camp here in the pretty little town of Heidelberg, which is situated in a valley. Looking at the town from one of the hills near it, it has the appearance of a mass of beautiful trees of various kinds; every street being lined with them. They are some of the finest trees I ever saw.

We left Cape Town Thursday night and arrived here on Wednesday night after a long and tiresome journey. We ran six days and two nights. We could run nights only while in Cape Colony, as after that we had to take precautions in guarding the train from possible attacks. One night our officers were very careful, sent a guard of 100 men out about a mile and made all the fellows who were left in the cars sleep with bandoliers and boots on, with one eye open ready for fight, which we were all very anxious for.

If you were here you would be more than surprised to see the country. It is quite different from what many people think it is. Cape Colony has a great many mountain ranges.

Travelling by train, one would wonder how the train could make its way along with great ranges of mountains ahead and on both sides. All along the route there are small villages about five miles apart, some of them very pretty, and all remarkable for the number and beauty of their shaple trees. About eighty miles from Cape Town we saw the first fortified place, a mass of trees and houses surrounded by white tents and troops. North of this point is the terminus of the Cape government railway. It is strongly garrisoned and has a large hospital and pretty nurses. Baden-Powell was there when we stopped for breakfast, but I did not see him myself.

This country is very much up-to-date in some respects. It has the greatest iron bridges I ever saw. The bridges over the Orange, the Vaal and the other rivers are all of steel. We saw a fine sight when the train came into Bloemfontein, which is situated on a large level plain. For miles around the town the camps of troops can be seen, and when we arrived some of our men, who have their headquarters here, were drilling. They looked fine. The officers were mounted on splendid horses. We stopped there for tea. After leaving Bloemfontein, the country becomes quite level, affording fine pasture land. We saw thousands and thousands of sheep, some herds three miles long, kept together chiefly by Kaffirs. Canada never saw such fine herds of cattle stretching sometimes for miles and miles, herd after herd, and all fat and large. And it would be of no use to try to count the goats, donkeys, mules, etc. Nearly every team of oxen consisted of sixteen-eight yokes.

Kromatitz is another interesting place to see. It is also strongly garrisoned and has plenty of fine trees, and some pretty gardens. On Wednesday morning we crossed the Vaal, and at noon reached Delfontein, a large mining town eight miles from Johannesburg. We stayed there about two hours, then took a branch road for Heidelberg, so that we did not see the great city of Johannesburg, with its population of almost 100,000 white people alone, and still more blacks.

Since leaving Cape Town we have had only one shower of rain. The nights are pretty cool, and the days about as warm as it is in Canada in May or June. There are some very beautiful flower-gardens here, which I suppose have to be watered every day during the dry season. I saw the finest lot of flowers over town yesterday that I ever looked at. Nothing grows in N. B. Canada like them. Some of the private residences here are elegant.

There is not anything exciting to tell now, as we are only drilling. This place is the headquarters of the Eastern Division of the S. A. C., which has a fine institute here, a large school building, where one can buy almost anything. The soldiers are not allowed to buy anything at the ordinary stores, for this reason: If a column of say 1,000 men, should pass through a town and buy everything in the shape of provisions, the civilians would starve. The soldiers are insured rations and the people are not.

All the railway stations here are far ahead of the ordinary Canadian depots, being built of brick or stone. I wish I were a telegraph operator; then a position would be easily gotten, with a good salary. We are getting 6s. a day while here drilling. Cape Town every Wednesday and I will try to send a set of S. A. stamps some time soon. There is a force of 1,100 Boers about 15 miles from here, so it is said. I have not heard of any fighting yet, except on the Sunday before we arrived.

This will be hard to read, as we have no facilities for writing. Sometimes we have to use our knees as writing desks.

Your loving son,

FRANK C. BROWN.

MRS. LOUIS BOTHA.

(Mail and Express.) For the moment a petticoat holds the centre of the stage in Great Britain's war with the Boers. What Mrs. Louis Botha's intention is in visiting England and what her credentials are, are best known to herself. It is intimated that she bears a message from her husband to the British government looking to a peace, and also that she has confidential information intended for the ear of Paul Kruger. It is ingeniously rather than ingenuously alleged that the pastor, Dr. Van Broekhuizen, who is now in this country, that "she is in England for her health only." He her errand what it may, the young wife of the Transvaal commander in chief

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THE STAR

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is evidently no ordinary woman. That is fully shown by her exhibitions of energy, her activity in arranging interviews between her husband and Kitchener and carrying their messages and the confidence which Boer and Briton alike seem to have reposed in her. In the last half year her "mobility" has been much more noticeable than that of Bothe himself, and now she has capped her horseback ride from camp to camp by a seven thousand-mile trip upon the sea.

CHILD BURNED TO DEATH.

The Sun's Salisbury correspondent writes:

A shocking calamity occurred on Sunday at the home of John A. Jones, a leading young farmer residing at Plover River, Salisbury parish, a few miles from this village. Mr. Jones had gone out to church in the morning, and about eleven o'clock Mrs. Jones made up a fire in the cooking stove in order to prepare dinner, after she had started the fire in the stove she took a pail and went out a short distance to get some fresh water, leaving their oldest child, a bright little girl nearly four years old, in the kitchen. On returning to the house in a few minutes she was horrified to see the little girl standing in the door with her dress a mass of flames. It is supposed that the child had been playing and gone too near the draft of the stove during the absence of the mother. Medical aid was summoned as speedily as possible, but the fire burned too deep, and the poor little sufferer's life went out on Monday morning.

REV. DR. DANIELS.

The services in Zion church next Sunday will be conducted by Rev. Dr. Daniels of Boynton, Virginia. Dr. Daniels was the first pastor of Zion church. This was some forty years ago, and he was then a young man. He is remembered as an effective preacher, and has well sustained the reputation won in his first charge. Dr. Daniels is a professor in the Methodist Institute at Bampton, and an author of repute in American Methodistism.

MONCTON.

MONCTON, June 12.—John Dujay, arrested at Shediac last night on a charge of stealing an express package containing 600 in gold shipped at Eastport, Maine, for J. L. Guptill, came before Stipendiary Kay this morning. The complainant in the case is James Robertson, official agent of the Canadian Express Co., Montreal, who has been in Shediac some days investigating. Three witnesses were examined. George F. Case, express messenger on No. 3 train between St. John and Amherst, who testified to receiving the package at St. John on the 29th May and delivered to Conductor McFadden of the Shediac branch at Paines Junction. Conductor McFadden was on the stand nearly all the afternoon, and testified that he received the bag of gold from Case and delivered it to the accused at Shediac, bearing his receipt on the express order book.

SMALL-POX IN BANGOR.

BANGOR, Me., July 12.—A conference of physicians today decided that the six patients at the pest house are suffering from smallpox. Heretofore the nature of the disease has been somewhat in doubt. Two more patients were taken to the pest house tonight. Although there is no occasion for public alarm, the board of health has ordered general vaccination.

MARINE MATTERS.

Str. Archduchess Maria Teresa left New York yesterday for this port to load coal. The Battle liner Pandora left Manchester yesterday morning for this port with general cargo. Pilot Joseph Doherty left yesterday for New York to bring the Anchor liner Almadia to this port. She will leave on Friday. Pilot Richard Cline will bring the str. Bernard down here from New York. It is expected she will sail Saturday.

MAYORS TO BE KNIGHTED.

MONTREAL, June 12.—The Herald's Ottawa special says: "It is reported here that when the Duke of York visits Canada knighthood will be conferred on the mayors of the cities he visits and that Sir Wilfrid Laurier will be elevated to the peerage as a recognition of his services to the empire."

To cure Headache in ten minutes use KUMFORT Headache Powders.

WANTED.

WANTED—A good Composer on book and job work at once. SUN PRINTING CO. CARPENTERS WANTED—Apply to WILLIAM HUMPHREYS, 118 St. James street.

WANTED—Old China blue dishes, brass candlesticks, pewter mugs and plates, brass andirons, heater pitchers, old postage stamps and the envelope used before 1870, old mahogany chairs, tables, sofas. Send a card or call at 118 Gervais street, W. A. KAIN, above Trinity church.

BOARDING.

BOARDERS WANTED—Good board and accommodation. Apply at 25 Victoria st.

LOST.

GOLD WATCH LOST—On Wednesday evening, 12th June, between Chesley street, north end, Suspension bridge and Carleton ferry, a Gold Watch with initials engraved. The finder will oblige by returning the same to MISS A. G. WILSON, 121 Prince William street.

FOR EXCHANGE.

2 Doors, 7 ft. 11 in. x 2 ft. 10 in. and 4 Doors, 6 ft. 3 in. x 2 ft. 6 in., with hinges for offers. Apply Doors, Star Office, St. John.

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FASHION PLAY BY INDIANS.

Scene of the Crucifixion Represented With Pomp and Splendor at Chilliwack, B. C.

VANCOUVER, B. C., June 11.—A "Fashion Play," was presented Saturday at Chilliwack, with all the pomp and splendour known to the red men of British Columbia.

The scene was an almost perfect Calvary. There was the round hill in the centre and the green common stretched away a mile on either side, with snow covered mountains in the south and the Canadian coast range to the north. The singing of the women echoed between the mountains.

The procession which formed at noon and marched to the place of crucifixion, was over a mile in length. Off at one side the bands played the marching music, but the instruments were put away as soon as the general procession had completed its tour.

Three times the line marched around the spot where the cross was to be erected. At all times the marchers sang hymns, and the clear voices of the women rang out in the Latin verses learned especially for the occasion.

"Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane" was the first scene, and it was one of the most impressive. Trees were quickly carried to the ground, and among them were shown the sleeping disciples and Christ as he stood alone, apart from them. Following this was the "Betrayal by Judas," and thereafter the "Passion scenes" of the passion followed one another in rapid succession. The fifth was "Christ before Pilate," the robes of the Roman governor having been brought from Italy for this scene.

The feature scene of all was "Christ Bearing the Cross." The corps of the Saviour's followers, followed by the rabble according to the scriptural representation, came up a steep path to the place of crucifixion. Then the cross was hoisted with a lay figure of Jesus upon it. On either side were the thieves, and one scene was devoted to the comforting words of Christ to the men who were to be killed with him.

The interior of the cross contained a mechanism by which the flow of a small reservoir of red fluid in the top was controlled. Even the impressive view of the wounds was thus shown. When the walls were given into the wood, and the same occurred in the fastenings of the hands.

On an order being given a soldier stepped forward and thrust his spear into the side of the lay figure, and a moment later the death scene was enacted.

The spectacle of the weeping women, in flowing white robes, with their hair streaming down their shoulders, was impressive. The figure was then removed from the cross, and a few moments later the scenes were concluded.

TORONTO, June 12.—It is stated that prospectors operating in northern Ontario in the Clergue interests, have discovered another great iron ore body similar to the Helen mine in Michipicoten district. If the statement is confirmed it means plenty of ore for a generation for the Ontario furnaces.