

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 1912

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CIVIC TAXATION

Notice is given that the city council will seek legislation at the next session of the Legislature to amend the St. John Assessment Act. The purpose of the amendment is to reduce by fifty per cent this year, with further reductions from time to time, the tax on buildings and improvements, while increasing the tax on land; also to exempt as soon as possible all personal property, and to reduce the poll tax from five to two dollars. These changes are in line with public sentiment. It may be true that some difficulty in adjustment will be met with, but the commission with the power of a court which the amendment also proposes should be able to deal equitably with every case that comes before it. The council should, however, be composed of men of ability and experience.

Tax reform has been a nightmare to the citizens for many years. We are now entering upon a period of civic growth, and the city should have a workable and equitable system of taxation. The present scheme has been devised for that purpose, and should be endorsed by the Legislature.

The bill also provides for the repeal of the section of the present law which provides a level tax rate of \$11.117, a plan which Saturday's meeting of the city council proved to be very unsatisfactory, and which ought to be changed.

A HOME NEEDED

Having secured a site for a building, the Association for the Prevention and Cure of Tuberculosis will appeal to the municipal council tomorrow to establish a home for advanced cases of tuberculosis. The need is urgent. When the Association last appealed to the council, it had no definite plans to submit, and therefore could not expect immediate action. Tomorrow a definite proposition will be made, and should meet with sympathetic treatment.

The association, and all who have been interested in the work, have been handicapped by the fact that advanced cases of tuberculosis in the homes of very poor people have made these homes dangerous centres, from which the disease spreads; while the patients themselves have been unable to get proper care and treatment. To meet this danger and to make the last days of hopeless victims a little less miserable, a home for advanced cases is urgently needed. There are no two opinions regarding this matter, and the municipal council will doubtless take prompt and effective action.

THE LARGE PLAYGROUND

One of the sets of this year's city council which will be specially commended, and the value of which will be more and more appreciated as time passes and the city grows, is the provision for a beginning this year of the work of converting the area at the entrance to Rockwood Park into a great public playground.

The work of draining and leveling the ground will be begun in the spring, and if in addition to what the city expends for that purpose the service of the city laborers can be secured to aid in the work, it should be possible to complete the draining and leveling this year. Then, if nothing more were done, there would be a large free playground. But, of course, as soon as this work is completed, an expert will be secured and a comprehensive playground plan on modern lines prepared, so that all future work from year to year will be in accordance with the general plan, until a completely equipped playground has been secured. The difficulty has been to get a beginning. This the council has provided for, and the rest will follow as a matter of course, without causing a heavy burden in any year.

There is also great need of neighborhood playgrounds, and it may be hoped that the civic playground committee may devise a plan by which at least one may be equipped in this year of the general forward movement in St. John.

If any citizen doubts that there is a very vigorous St. John forward movement, let him glance over the files of the city papers for the past two weeks.

The Socialists are making great gains in the German elections. The news will not be well received in high protectionist circles, nor by the rest of the party.

France, Spain and Chile have all been looking for new cabinets, and here St. John searching eagerly for five commissioners to form its next administration. There's quite a stir in the world.

The red light district in Winnipeg is to be abolished. The plan of segregation failed to keep vice within bounds, and now a policy of suppression will be adopted.

The United States congress will be asked to endorse public ownership by taking over and operating the telephone lines as part of the postal service. This is a radical proposition to emanate from government sources in that country.

What does it cost this community at the present time to support the drunkards and other sons of the street who ought to be in a prison farm, working for a living? What does it cost the families of these men, in money and in suffering, to have them at large? What does it cost the community to suffer the influence of such

men to be exerted on the youth of the city?

Perhaps while the mayor and recorder are in Ottawa, they may get some definite news about Courtenay Bay development.

A street car was held up by bandits in Vancouver on Saturday night and the passengers robbed. Vancouver's growth has included some very rank weeds.

St. John now has an excellent ferry service, but it has cost a lot of money, and there has been a large annual deficit. No one would care to have the ferry rates increased if they could reasonably be kept at the lower rate. The conditions are such this year, however, that an increase was deemed necessary. The added cost for those who secure book tickets and use the ferry most will not be large, and the bulk of the increased revenue will be paid by transients. It is difficult to see how the council could have pursued a different course from that adopted on Saturday.

SWINDLER PRETENDED THAT HE WAS A PRIEST

Arrested. He Says That He Stole From Pope, Cardinals and Diplomats

Rome, Jan. 15.—Giovanni Battista Gendri, a pseudo priest, was arrested here yesterday on a charge of extensive swindling. He has also been known as Mgr. De Savigny, prince of Belmonte. He said to the police that he had swindled the Pope, many cardinals and religious orders, and royal personages, out of a million francs. Gendri not only pretended to be a priest but celebrated at mass regularly.

He is wanted in several countries, particularly in France, Germany and Austria, where he pretended to be an emissary of the Pope and swindled Catholic clergy and many diplomats. The police found in his baggage a large quantity of money and jewellery, and the Pope's photograph with an autograph dedication.

ICE BREAKER HERSELF ST. LAWRENCE PRISONER

The Lady Grey Caught Near Three Rivers — Want Help From Halifax

Quebec, Jan. 15.—Caught in the ice near Three Rivers, the ice breaker "Lady Grey" is now a prisoner. The ice had formed so rapidly that there is now a solid bridge down the river. The Montserrat has been doing great work in endeavoring to cut her out, but was herself twice caught today, and had great difficulty in getting out of trouble.

It is suggested that one of the ice breakers should be brought from Halifax to assist in an endeavor to keep the channel open between Quebec and Montreal.

LONDON'S PAUPERS

John Burns has provided Mr. Haddock, M.P., with a printed reply to a question asking the president of the local government board whether he could state the cost of London's paupers, including expenditure out of loans, for the year ended March, 1911, and the total cost per head of each indoor pauper and of each outdoor pauper in London for that year.

Mr. Burns says: "The total expenditure on relief of the poor and paupers connected therewith, including expenditure out of loans, in London during the year ended March, 1911, amounted approximately to £2,917,000. The latest available figures showing the annual cost per head of each indoor pauper, £34, 12s. 2 1/4d.; of each outdoor pauper, £28, 12s. 2 1/4d.; expenditure out of loans is not included in these figures."

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These tablets contain all the active elements of the natural stomach juices and will alone and unaided digest food just the same as the gastric juice. And nothing could be more harmless than these tablets. They do not affect the system in any way—do not cure any ailment except as they digest food. Use them freely.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are sold by druggists everywhere. Price, 50 cents per box. A trial package will be sent if you will write F. A. Stuart Co., 140 Stuart Bldg., Marshall, Mich.



THE LAIRD O' COCKPEN

The Laird o' Cockpen he's proud an' he's great,
His mind is ta'en up wi' things o' the great,
He wanted a wife, his braw house to keep,
But fauvor wi' wootin' was fauvor to seek.

Doon by the dyke-side a lady did dwell,
At his table-head he thought she'd look well,
McClure as a dochter, o' Clavers-hill Lee,
A penniless lass wi' a long pedigree.

His wig was weel powdered, as gude as when new,
His waistcoat was white, his coat it was blue,
He put on a ring, a sword, an' cocked his hat,
An' wha' could refuse the Laird wi' a' that?

He took the gey mare, he rode cannie,
An' rapped at the gey o' Clavers-hill Lee,
"Gae tell Mistress Jean to come speedily,
She's wanted to speak wi' the Laird o' Cockpen."

Mistress Jean she was makin' the elder flow'r wine,
"An' wha' brings the Laird at sic a time?"
She put aff her apron, an' on her silk gown,
Her match wi' red ribbons, an' gae awa' doon.

An' when she cam' ben he bowed fu' low,
An' wha' was his errand he soon let her know,
Amused was the Laird when the lady said, "Na!"
An' wi' a laigh curtsie she turned awa'!

Dumfries-d' was he, but he had sic high did,
He mounted his mare, an' he rode cannie;
An' o'ft he thought, as he gae through Cockpen,
"She's daft to refuse the Laird o' Cockpen!"

—Lady Nairne.

IN LIGHTER VEN

MOTHER'S LOVE
Tis Bess—Mrs. de Mover—Good gracious!
This is the nicest neighborhood I ever got into. Just hear those children screech.

Meant—they're your own children, mum.
Mrs. de Mover—Are they? How the little darlings are enjoying themselves.

OPEN QUESTION.
Washington Herald.
"I don't know whether that man is a benefactor to the human race or not."

"What is he?"
"A hairdresser. He makes two puffs grow where one grew before."

VERY PAINFUL.
"Flem—Hello, dear boy, you look very sad this morning. What's the trouble?"
"Flem—I've just undergone a most annoying operation."

"Flem—What was it?"
"Flem—I had my allowance cut off."

—New York World.

A CHANGE OF HEART.
O, everything is bright and gay, the world outside looks good,
And nothing is but what is right when it's understood.

Our friends are true beyond a doubt, with joy the world's ablaze,
There's no more sadness, now, for Pa has had a raise.

Time was, and not so long ago, he muttered as he went,
And he declared the world was but a place of discontent.

The rich he said oppressed the poor in forty different ways,
But things look very rosy now, for Pa has had a raise.

Pa used to sigh up in the air, and throw out his chest,
He says that recognition came to him who he couldn't see.

"Perform your duties cheerfully, my boy!" he says, "it pays."
Do not look at your humble task, and you will get a raise."

Last week I heard Pa telling Ma his boss he couldn't see,
He said he didn't know enough to run a business.

But now he is the greatest man of all these modern days,
The wisest look that ever lived, but Pa has had a raise.

—Edgar P. Guest, in Detroit Free Press.

Feed Your Brain

The brain is one of the most intensely active organs of the body. It not only needs stimulation but nourishment.

Don't be subject to brain fog or nervousness—take PEBERLESS SYRUP OF HYPOPHOSPHITES. It contains phosphorus in an assimilable form, nourishes your brain—tonics up your system—displays nervousness.

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Two Weeks Wringer Sale!

Now that we have taken stock we find we are over-stocked on certain lines of Wringers. Commencing Saturday, the thirteenth, we are offering the special prices mentioned below, for two weeks only.

10 inches Bay-side Wringer, (regular price \$4.00) Special \$3.00
10 inches Falcon Wringer, (regular price \$4.00) Special \$3.00
10 inches Eze (Ballbearing) Wringer, (regular price \$4.00) Special \$3.25
11 inches Eze (Ballbearing) Wringer, (regular price \$4.75) Special \$3.95

Remember these prices only last two weeks.

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NORTON GRIFFITHS IS ONE OF THE TENDERERS

British Columbia Proposed 1,000 Mile Railway Line—Provincial Elections Hinted At

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 14.—A railway running north and south through British Columbia intended primarily to open the Great Peace River prairies is the chief question for legislative action for the session of the British Columbia Legislature, now in session in Victoria.

This session the plan is to arrange for a line nearly 1,000 miles in length, to connect Vancouver with the rich agricultural lands of northern British Columbia. But in advance may be made on any previous western Canadian legislation in that the new line may be built and operated by the government. On principle Frontier-McBride is known to be in favor of a state-built and state-owned line, but several railway companies have offered under certain forms of government assistance, to build it. The Canadian Pacific has already filed plans for terminals at North Vancouver, which would be the southern end of a Peace River line.

Norton Griffiths, a member of the British parliament and one of the wealthiest contractors in the world, had offered to build it, and two American firms have submitted offers.

The session will likely be the last of the present house, which has nearly two years to run. Premier McBride, it is declared, intends to appeal to the people for reelection on his Peace River programme, the consummation of which he now regards as a crowning work of his career. It is expected also that at this session,

the possible life of future legislatures will be extended from four to five years, so that the next house will have the extra year to run.

STRANGE FOR SAM.
"Frank—Sam, when you an' me was out at de party 'las night you acted awful strange."
Sam—I didn't know it, Frank. How did I act strange?
Frank—Why, you was actually spendin' money!—New York World.

Clearance Prices on Women's and Children's Jersey and Felt Leggings

Ladies' Finest Quality Jersey Leggings, high cut, button or stocking top above the knee, all sizes. \$1.25 per pair

Ladies' Finest Quality Jersey Cloth Leggings, leather bound and faced. \$1.10 per pair

Ladies' Fine Quality Cash Leggings, 90c per pair

Misses' Fine Quality Cash Leggings, 80c per pair

Child's Fine Quality Cash Leggings, 60c per pair

Francis & Vaughan

19 KING STREET

Whitewear Sale.

We have just received a shipment of whitewear samples including Corset Covers, Drawers, Gowns and Skirts, all going at about wholesale prices.

New Shirtwaists
Extra values in white shirtwaists at 75c, 85c, \$1.00, \$1.25.

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