Reports of Chamberlain and Comptroller Show that Civic Finances are in Good Condition

Taxes are Well Paid and City Has Lived Within its Income During the Past Year—Substantial Reduction in Bonded Debt—Comparison of City's Assets and Liabilities Show Credit Balance of Almost Two and One Half Million Dollars.

The City Council met at noon yesterday and heard the report of the Chamberlain and Comptroller. The Chamberlain said that no city in Canada that he knew of could make the showing which St. John had made this last year. The city had lived within its income and only one-half of one per cent. of the warrant had not been collected. The bonded debt was decreased by $172,000, and is now less than $5,000,000. The total assets of the city are placed at $7,421,285.98, and liabilities at $4,976,841.40, leaving a balance of $2,444,444.58 to the credit of the city.

The motion of Commissioner Potts to renew the flat rate for another five years was laid over until today at noon.

A letter was received from Messrs. Weldon & McLean for the lessees of the property of Mrs. Mary E. Hollis on which the stone crusher is placed, asking for the removal of same. This was referred to the Commissioner of Public Safety. Commissioner McLellan moved for a bill to empower the city to condemn buildings unfit for habitation and send the inmates to the Municipal Home. The bill was approved.

Com. Potts presented a bill for the legislature to give the city power to expropriate land for city purposes, to expropriate land as sites for workmen's dwellings, to issue bonds for the erection of such buildings to be paid for by purchasers by a fifteen per cent. deposit and balance in monthly payments, with interest at six per cent. The bill was ordered advertised, subject to later discussion for approval.

A bill prepared by Com. Potts setting forth the relations between the city and the street railway company and extending the city's powers in dealing with the company was ordered to be advertised, pending further discussions.

Com. Potts reported that the estimated cost of removing the building at the corner of Mill and Main streets purchased fro mthe C. P. R., and widening the street at that place, was $1,500. Bonds for the amount were authorized.

Comptroller's Report

I have the honor to present my annual report upon the accounts and finances of the city for the year ending December 31, 1915.

Surplus—The year was completed with a surplus of $41,584.46. By order of common council disposition was made of this, viz.: $20,000 was to be placed at the credit of water reserve account for water pipe renewals, and the balance to be applied for the reduction of taxes, year 1916.

Overdrafts—Overdrafts by resolution of common council—Ferry department, $5,000; street paving, sidewalks, $4,097; British Red Cross, $5,000; total, $14,097.

Taxes—The receipts of taxes were all that could be desired for such a strenuous year as that just passed. It shows that the citizens did their part well, also the treasurer and staff.

Harbor—The revenue from harbor for the year 1915 was $118,375.99; the expenditure of the year necessarily was heavy.

Licenses—Ordinary licenses collected during year 1915 were $9,103.30, this being an increase compared with last year of $1,389.60.

Water maintenance—The receipts for the year 1915 from water assessment, water sold, etc., were $221,427.47. This shows an increase over last year of $11,758.45. The expenditures for the period of 1915 were $189,996.65, this being less than last year by $8,434.99.

Water service—The amount expended during the year for water pipe renewals, etc., was $6,074.81. The amount at the credit of this account for future use is $28,906.11. This includes the amount of $20,000 from this year's surplus.

Debenture debt—The debenture debt on the 31st day of December, 1915, was $4,928,370.51. This is a decrease during the year of $172,500. The amount of the debt due, not yet presented for payment is $8,150.

Debentures paid—Debentures maturing during year 1915 were $480,550. The amount of $280,000 was refunded, $195,500 was paid from sinking funds. The remainder, viz.: $5,450, will be retired by sinking fund when they appear. Debentures amounting to $2,400, due prior to year 1915, were presented and paid from the sinking fund.

Debenture issue—Debentures issued during the year 1915 were as follows: $110,000 water refunding; $100,000 sewers, refunding; $70,000 market, refunding; $25,000 water, new work; total $305,000. The above were issued for twenty years expiry, bearing five per cent. interest, and sold to the citizens at par.

Debentures due 1916—Debentures to the amount of $29,440 will mature during the year 1916. These will be paid from the sinking fund when they appear.

Lands sold—Sales of land to the amount of $4,300 were made during year 1915. This money was placed in sinking fund account.

Lands purchased—Lands at Lakes Lattimer and Robertson were purchased at a cost of $1,950 and paid for by water maintenance.

Debenture interest—The interest on the debt for year 1915 was $213,556.32. That required for the year 1916, on the debt as it now stands, is $206,551.02, being a decrease of $7,005.30.

Sinking fund—The sinking fund has received careful attention, being fully maintained, and had at credit on the 31st December last $1,072,371.79. This amount is invested as follows: Bonds in security boxes with bankers, $1,013,395.11; cash in Bank of Nova Scotia, "sinking fund account," $58,976.68; total $1,072,371.79.

Expenditures—The expenditure by the city during the year 1915 received my very closest attention, and in no case did any department exceed its appropriation, except by overdraft ordered.

Appropriations, year 1915, amount expended:—Fire department and salvage corps, $77,502.62; police department, $59,090.15; lamp department, $32,254.16; street department, $115,802.64; ferry department, $50,735.77; fire hydrants, $5,991.32; sewer maintenance, $11,082.63; exhibition buildings, including balance from year 1914, $1,186.28. Total $353,645.57.

Expenditures made during year 1915, under capital account, were completed within their individual estimates. During the year the common council passed orders for the construction of two new sewers, viz.:—On Strait Shore road, and Acadia street, to be paid for out of the balance at the credit of over and underexpended balances account. This expenditure amounted to $2,722.26.

Audit—The books and accounts of your treasurer for the year ending 31st December, 1915, were audited by me. The balance sheet, together with the statement of assets and liabilities, at the close of the business on that day, signed by me, which are presented to you by your treasurer, are in my opinion a true and correct showing of the city's position.

I periodically counted the cash in the hands of your treasurer. This I have always found correct, and the amount on hand on the 31st day of December last was $1,166.44.

Cash amounting to $43,932.80 was at the city's credit with the Bank of Nova Scotia "General Account" at the close of the day of 31st December, 1915.

I audited the books and accounts of the police magistrate and judge of the city court. I found that the moneys received were paid into the city's treasury.

Finance—From reports in the press regarding some other cities we seem apparently to be much easier in finance than they are.

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.) ADAM MACINTYRE, C. A., Comptroller.

Chamberlain's Report

I hvae the honor of presenting a statement of the city's accounts for the year ending December 31, 1915.

Bonds amounting to $480,550.00 matured. As some of the sinking funds were not sufficient to retire this amount, it was necessary to reissue for the difference, viz.:—$280,000.00, which issue was sold to our citizens, the rate being five per cent., and the price par. The bonds maturing were issued previous to union, and the shortage was as follows:—Water, six per cent., $110,000; sewerage, six per cent.; sewerage, five per cent.; sewerage, four per cent., $100,000; market, $70,000. Total $280,000. This amount with $25,000 for water construction, Adelaide road, constitute the amount issued in year 1915.

$475,100 of debentures, maturing, were presented and paid, with an addition of $2,400 of previous year's, not before presented.

The net decrease in our bonds outstanding was $172,500.

The amount of our bonded debt is now $4,928,370.51.

It is gratifying to note that our debt is now below $5,000,000, and if possible, it should remain there until more prosperous times.

The net decrease in our interest payable account for year 1916, without any further issue of debentures will be $7,005.30. Bonds amounting to $29,440 will mature in year 1916, and will be paid from sinking funds. Our sinking funds have been kept up to the mark. Our aim is to invest in securities of only the highest standing. We have at present in our sinking funds:—Bonds invested, $1,013,395.11. Bank of Nova Scotia investment account, $58,976.68. Total, $1,072,371.79.

The city lived within its income, and though about one-half of one per cent. of our warrants was not collected, it was possible to place $20,000 in water reserve and $21,647.47 towards the reduction of taxes for year 1916. The collections were all good, the citizens as a rule paying their quota towards the city's finances. I have yet to hear of a city that did as well.

The receipts of the harbor made a record, while the demands against the properties vastly increased.

The ferry receipts show a decrease, and with the cars crossing the bridge, further decreases may be looked for.

Lancaster lands is one of the few accounts not showing a satisfactory statement, but, with a number of frame buildings increasing in age, the outlook is not very promising. I would strongly urge the disposal of these properties at the most opportune time.

The calls upon general revenue have been many, and insistent, and we closed the year with this account over $7,000 in debt.

A careful study of the grants by our citizens will, I believe, bear out the action of the commissioners, as it would be very difficult to eliminate any grant as needless.

The work of the office has been well performed, the men in charge all striving to fill the positions to the best of their ability. Mr. Macintyre's services are always at our disposal.

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.) DUNCAN G. LINGLEY, Chamberlain.

Assets and Liabilities

Statement of assets and liabilities, City of Saint John, N. B., 31st December, 1915:

Assets

Real Estate		$3,217,775.00
Water Plant		2,093,961.65
Sewerage Plant		496,419.87
Sundry Plant		361,155.92
Rentals and Water Agreements Past Due		3,364.65
Deferred Assessment		14,867.62
Sundry Accounts		14,236.74
Overdrafts C. C.		36,847.47
Due from Construction Accounts		12,587.25
Bonds Investments for Sinking Funds	$1,013,395.11	
Bank of Nova Scotia Sinking Funds	58,976.60	
		1,072,371.79
Bank of Nova Scotia General		43,932.80
Cash on Hand 31st Dec., 1915		1,166.44
Uncollected Taxes and Water Rates—		
Uncollectable provided for	$ 64,000.00	
Less paid on Account	11,391.22	
		52,608.78
		$7,421,285.98

Liabilities

Debentures Outstanding	$4,928,370.51
Debenture Coupons for Interest, not presented	4,121.44
Due Construction Accounts	35,423.27
Street Permits	1,130.00
Deposits on Contract	282.97
Sundry Accounts	663.05
County Surplus Collections	6,850.16
	4,976,841.40
Excess Assets over Liabilities	$2,444,444.58

There Is Nothing Finer Made

In the manufacture of

Red Ball Ale and Porter

only the choicest ingredients are used, We purchase the very best selected barley, choice imported hops, and use pure artesian water. Extract of malt in the form of Red Ball Ale and Porter forms one of Nature's most valuable gifts to man.

Particular attention given to family trade and out of town orders

RED BALL BRAND TRADE MARK REGISTERED

SIMEON JONES, LTD.
Brewers
St. John, N. B.

WILSON'S "The All-Time Favorite"

BACHELOR CIGAR

The cigar of quality. Made by hand from carefully selected leaf, and sold wherever cigars are sold. Clear Havana filler. Finest Sumatra wrapper. Largest sale of any high-grade cigar in Canada.

For Your Protection Every "Bachelor" Cigar BACHELOR is stamped as above

ANDREW WILSON & CO. LIMITED TORONTO AND MONTREAL

Live Sporting News and Notes

ST. JOHNS MET FIRST DEFEAT

The St. John team met their first defeat of the season at the hands of the 115th team last evening, to the tune of 8 to 5.

The first period was devoid of scoring, and was perhaps the fastest exhibition of hockey seen in St. John for many a day.

The second period gave six goals to the 115th, while the St. John team got three. St. John started out to even the score in the last period and added two tallies, but in the end of the period, the 115th added two more.

The lineup was as follows:

St. John		115th
	Goal.	
Fitzgerald		Lahey
	Point	
Speedy		Pickard
	C. Point.	
McShane		Gregory
	Centre.	
Shatford		Mooney
	Right Wing.	
Gilbert		MacGowan
	Left Wing.	
Callahan		Jones

Spares.

St. John—McMonagle, Callahan and Jones.

1155th—Rowley, Carruthers and McNutt.

Referees—Robertson and Rolly Trites.

LOCAL BOWLING

In the City league on Black's alleys last night the Tigers took the four points from the Specials. A peculiar thing in the match was that total scores of the first two strings for each team was a tie. The individual score of the match follows:

Specials.					
Walsh	92	93	80—265	88	1-3
Scott	88	98	102—288	96	
O'Connor	81	75	131—287	95	2-3
Dunham	88	91	85—264	88	
Wilson	95	87	111—293	97	2-3
	444	444	509	1397	
Tigers.					
Lunney	91	106	95—292	97	1-3
Belyea	87	103	134—324	108	
Howard	108	87	95—290	96	2-3
Coughlan	103	83	97—283	94	1-3
Bailey	88	98	103—289	96	1-3
	477	477	524	1478	

The next game will be on Wednesday night, when the C. P. R. and Wanderers will roll. The game scheduled for tonight has been postponed until Thursday night.

"Ten String Match."

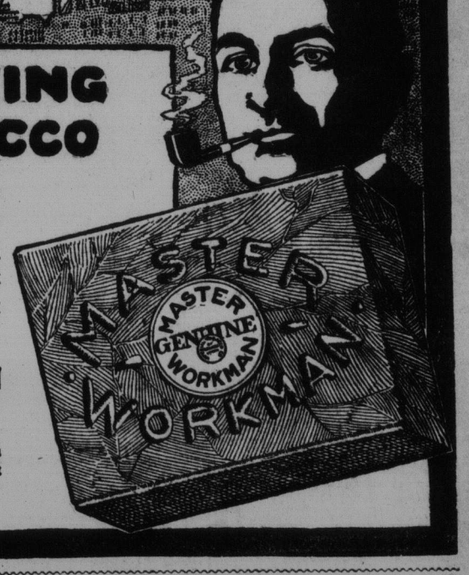
Messrs. Black and Wilson, who won a ten string match from two members of the Ramblers' team last week, received a challenge yesterday for another ten string match from Allan Bailey and A. Burk.

The challenge was accepted and the match will be rolled at two o'clock this afternoon.

HON. MR. BURRELL MAY BE OUT OF HOUSE FOR REST OF SESSION

Ottawa, Feb. 14.—Owing to the nervous shock and injuries sustained in the parliament building fire, from which he is but slowly recovering, it is doubtful whether Hon. Martin Burrell will be able to resume his duties this session. He will probably go south for a period of convalescence.

MASTER WORKMAN



SMOKING TOBACCO

The Civil Engineer says:—

"When I strike a knotty problem that calls for deep thinking, I want

MASTER WORKMAN Smoking Tobacco

This world-famous Brand can now be obtained for 15c. a cut at all the best stores.

Bringing Up Father

ANCE

RAILWAYS.

ADIAN GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS

Saint John——Montreal.
MARITIME EXPRESS.
leave St. John 6.10 p. m. Daily.
OCEAN LIMITED
leave Halifax 8.00 a. m. Daily
pt Sunday.

STEAMSHIPS

Head Line

St. ohn to Dub in
Torr Head .. .. Feb. 26

St. John to Belfast
Bengore Head .. .. Feb. 4
Bray Head .. .. Feb 5

t. John to Avonmou
Innishowen Head .. .. .. Feb 5

Subject to Change.
WM. THOMSON & CO., LTD.,
Agents.

MANCHESTER LIN

From — From
nchester — St. John
15 Manchester Corporation Feb. 1
22 Manchester Inventor .. Feb. 12
30 Manchester Merchant Feb. 19

WM. THOMSON & CO., LTD.,
Agents. St. John, N. B.

URNESS LINE

From — From
ndon. — St. John.
c. 31 Shenandoah Feb13
n. 30 Kanawha Feb. 15
b. 10 Rappahannock Feb. 26

WM. THOMSON & CO., LTD.,
Agents, St. John, N. B.

ASTERN STEAMSHIP LINES.

All-the-Way-by-Water.

INTERNATIONAL LINE.

Steamship North Star
ill leave St. John Thursdays at nine m. for Lubec, Eastport, Portland nd Boston.
Returning leaves Boston Mondays nine a.m. via Portland, Eastport nd Lubec, due at St. John Tuesday fternoon.

MAINE STEAMSHIP LINE

Between Portland and New York.
teamships North Land and Herman Winter.
educed Fares—Reduced Stateroom Prices.
Schedule disturbed—Information upon request.
City Ticket Office, 47 King street.
A. C. CURRIE, Agent, St. John, N. B.
A. E. FLEMMING, T. F. & P. A., St. John, N. B.

CHANGE OF TIME.
Fall and Winter Time Table of the
GRAND MANAN S. S. CO.

Grand Manan Route—Season 1915-16.
After October 1st, 1915, and, until further notice, a steamer of this line will run as follows:
Leave Grand Manan Mondays at 7.30 a. m. for St. John, via Eastport, Campobello and Wilson's Beach.
Returning leave Turnbull's Wharf St. John, Wednesdays at 7.30 a. m., for Grand Manan, via Wilson's Beach, Campobello and Eastport.
Leave Grand Manan Thursdays at 8 a. m. for St. Stephen, via Campobello, Eastport and St. Andrews.
Returning leave St. Stephen, Fridays at 7.30 a. m. for Grand Manan, via St. Andrews, Eastport and Campobello.
Leave Grand Manan Saturdays at 7.30 a. m. for St. Andrews.
Returning same day, leaving St. Andrews at 1 p. m., calling at Campobello and Eastport both ways.
Atlantic Standard Time.
L. C. GUPTILL, Manager, Grand Manan.

THE MARITIME STEAMSHIP CO. (LIMITED.)

On February 11th and until further notice the S.S. "Page" and S.S. "Cassico No. 2," will run as follows:
Leave St. John, N. B., Thorne Wharf and Warehouse Co., on Saturday, 7.30 a.m., for St. Andrews, calling at Dipper Harbor, Beaver Harbor, Black's Harbor, Back Bay, or Letete, Deer Island, Red Store, St. George. Returning leave St. Andrews Tuesday for St. John, calling at Letete or Back Bay, Black's Harbor, Beaver Harbor and Dipper Harbor, tide and weather permitting.
AGENT—Thorne Wharf and Warehousing Co., St. John, N. B.
'Phone 2581. Manager, Lewis Connors, Black's Harbor, N. B.
This company will not be responsible for any debts contracted after this date without a written order from the company or captain of the steamer.

Don't Forget
To Call West 7 or West 81
When Needing
Oats, Middlings, Bran or Hay
We have Western Oats—good quality, reasonable price.
A. C. SMITH & CO.
Union Street - West St. John