

## The Standard



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SAINT JOHN, THURSDAY MORNING, FEB. 2, 1911.

## THE WRECKERS OF CANTERBURY STREET.

"The St. John Standard is still finding weak points in the government of the city of Des Moines," says the Times. "It fails to discover any in St. John." On the contrary, The Standard is well aware that there are weak points in the present system, and has on more than one occasion pointed out that a reduction in the number of the aldermen, with smaller committees, more frequent meetings, and some minor reforms, while retaining the same well established principle of government, would provide a remedy for vexatious delays in the transaction of business and place the conduct of civic affairs on a thoroughly satisfactory basis.

The Standard has failed to discover is that the mayor and seventeen aldermen, whom the citizens by their votes elect year by year to conduct the city's business, are a worthless gang of incompetents who never by any chance do anything right, who invariably do everything wrong, who are not even human enough to be allowed to make mistakes and who in season and out of season must be placed in the pillory of the public press to be held up to the scorn and derision of their fellow citizens. That discovery is the peculiar prerogative of the Telegraph and the Times.

Under the fostering care of these journals a campaign of hostility against the Common Council has been carried on by means of criticism and ridicule for several years, with a result that might logically be expected—men who in the interests of the city should have come forward and by their counsel and influence as prominent and representative citizens help to remedy such abuses as do exist, have almost invariably declined to serve. It is a notorious fact that time and again members of the Board of Trade and other citizens who could well afford the time, have been invited to run for the Council, and that they have all made the same excuse. They would not enter the Council to be made a laughing stock, and to have their every move criticized and condemned. They had something better to do.

And today a new situation has developed through the agency of the Advertising Committee of the Board of Trade who, to their credit be it recorded, when they started out to boost St. John, did not hesitate to ask the Telegraph and the Times to stop their picaresque campaign of constantly criticizing the government of the city. The Committee in a fruitless search for certain information at City Hall, became discouraged. With the inefficiency of the aldermen constantly dinned into their ears by the patriotic journals of Canterbury street, they might almost be excused for deserting the pleasant paths of "the booster" to hoist the red flag of civic revolution.

With little personal experience of civic affairs, as perhaps they themselves will admit, they have followed the line of least resistance, and have become persuaded that not the details of the system, but the whole principle on which the present form of civic government is founded must also be inefficient, and must go. Hence the commission plan from the wild and woolly west which is to be a panacea for all the ills in this ancient, but effete, Loyalist city.

Who more jubilant at the outcome than those two patriotic journals who have hunted so long and so vindictively for the scalps of the aldermen? "A new deal," they shout today in unison, and in their mind's eye can see, even now, the City Fathers decorating the telephone poles from The Three Lamps to Indiantown, while the five commissioners are borne through the ranks of the citizens, henceforth their vassals and retainers, to their thrones in City Hall. Then the millennium will begin.

And what have the great body of the electorate to say to all this? Are they infected with the commission fever, because cities in Iowa, Texas, and New Mexico, and some nearer home are making the experiment? Are they prepared to abandon a form of constitutional and representative government which is standing the test today in thousands of cities, because some self-evident reforms are needed? It is not a new deal but a square deal that the situation calls for—a square deal for the Common Council and for constitutional government. An awakening of a patriotic spirit and a pride in those principles which, in spite of defects, have given St. John today a greater measure of prosperity than at any period in her history.

## PROVINCIAL JUSTICE.

If there is one subject more than another upon which the Opposition press and speakers alike avoid, it is the comparative cost of criminal prosecutions under the old regime and under the Hazen Government. Time and again when in Opposition, Mr. Hazen called the attention of the then Government to the excessive cost of administration of justice in this province. He pointed out that many legal gentlemen whose names appeared on political posters as platform orators on behalf of the old Government, also appeared with regularity in the public accounts as the recipients of large fees paid out of the provincial treasury for legal services of one kind and another. Even members of the House of Assembly were frequently provided for, and all sorts of extra services were paid for to Crown officers.

It did not make much difference who was Attorney General or Solicitor General, fees were charged and paid these officials for every service they rendered. The regular duties of an Attorney General and Solicitor General were not performed by the officials who held these offices, but were delegated to others who received large sums annually for doing the work which the holders of the offices of Attorney General and Solicitor General ought to have performed themselves, and which, since the change of government, has been performed by Hon. Mr. Hazen and Hon. Mr. McLeod.

Not only did the legal officers of the old Government delegate the duties of their offices to others, but they charged for all services, worthy of the name

that they undertook on behalf of the province. These additional sums largely increased the amount paid these gentlemen as salaries. In some years the fees paid the Attorney General were greater than the salary, and the Solicitor General was a very good second, rapidly learning from his superior the secret of doubling his salary without increasing his labors.

Mr. Hazen has taken a different view of the responsibilities of his office and what is due the province from its chief Crown officer. He has always appeared in court personally to prosecute Crown cases excepting when the legislature was in session or the executive was meeting. On such occasions he has been compelled to nominate a substitute, but these occasions have been rare. The result is a greatly reduced expenditure under the head of Administration of Justice in the past three years.

The provincial accounts for the Administration of Justice are kept under two heads, one for criminal prosecutions, and the other miscellaneous. The expenditures under these two heads from 1901 to 1910 inclusive are as follows:—

	Criminal Prosecutions.	Miscellaneous.
1901 .....	\$ 2,312.90	\$1,357.72
1902 .....	3,187.99	2,158.03
1903 .....	3,089.71	489.50
1904 .....	2,824.55	222.70
1905 .....	2,033.33	485.37
1906 .....	1,706.53	225.00
1907 .....	3,258.19	433.05

Total for 7 years .. \$18,892.70 .. \$5,372.17

The Hazen Government came into power in March 1908. Prior to the change the old Government had paid out the large sum of \$2,400 on account of criminal prosecutions and something over \$600 under the head of miscellaneous. The total expenditures for the administration of justice since 1908 are as follows:—

	Criminal Prosecutions.	Miscellaneous.
1908 .....	\$2,903.63	\$ 609.60
1909 .....	1,931.65	475.10
1910 .....	961.65	120.75

Total for 3 years .. \$5,796.93 .. \$1,205.45

The total expenditures for the three years of the Hazen Administration amount to \$7,061.41 and from this must be deducted \$3,000 paid out by Mr. Robinson before he retired from office, which reduces the total amount expended by Mr. Hazen to \$4,061.41, an average annual expenditure of \$1,353.80. Compare this with a total expenditure by the old Government of \$23,764.87 in seven years, an average of \$3,394.98, or \$2,000 per annum more than Mr. Hazen has spent.

Mr. Hazen promised an honest and economical administration of the affairs of the province. Here is a good example of the manner in which the pledge has been kept. It may have been necessary for the old Government with no more criminal business to take care of, and with much less revenue, to scatter the people's money as retainers to political supporters who appeared on dozens of platforms about election times, but Mr. Hazen has taken a different course, and carries out his promise to the people to give them honest and economical government.

## PECULIARITIES OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

After seventeen years or more of women's suffrage New Zealand is able to furnish some interesting, and in several instances surprising, lessons of the way in which women exercise their right to vote. Practically all women over the age of twenty-one years are entitled to the franchise, and from seventy to eighty per cent. avail themselves of it, which, by the way, is an object lesson on the duties of citizenship that might well be taken to heart by members of the sterner sex in Canada.

Women's suffrage was first introduced into New Zealand by a Conservative ministry, and in the first election following, when the women had opportunity to show practical appreciation of the Conservative ministry's consideration, an advanced Liberal-Labor administration was elected to power, and has remained in power ever since. As for the effect of the introduction of the women vote into the politics of the country, as evidenced by legislation, it has been most marked in the variety and number of radical or Socialistic acts of parliament passed since the vote was first given to women, practically all of the advanced legislation for which New Zealand is noted the world over having been brought into force within the past seventeen years.

It seems that the women of New Zealand are pretty much the same as women of other lands in this, that they want what they want when they want it. In that country, if a condition exists that appears to the women voters to be wrong, their dictum is to pass a law and put a stop to it at once, and this tendency shows itself more often in matters of moral and social import than elsewhere, the feminine idea seeming to be that it is easier to make people good, according to their standards, by legislation than by moral suasion or other means.

As to the value of this argument, we may well have our doubts. Naturally the women voters of New Zealand are all ardent prohibitionists, and over a considerable portion of the Dominion prohibition is in force. Today, the organ of the prohibition party looks forward to the day when, liquor having been driven from the land, a campaign can be waged against tobacco, and its use prohibited by government enactment; also when government inspectors will be empowered to inspect the larders and meat safes of private citizens to see that nothing is consumed injurious to health, or, from the prohibitionists' viewpoint, likely to upset the public welfare.

In matters affecting the national safety the women of New Zealand who campaign and make their voices heard upon public platforms, are opposed to militarism, and are out of sympathy with the action of parliament which lent aid to Great Britain in the South African war, and later gave a Dreadnought to the Empire carrier. They are also opposed to a national military or naval service. As yet, they have not been able to make their opposition effective in parliament, but as they are usually insistent with their demands, it can easily be believed that sooner or later they will have their way. Should such a thing happen and later on the little island dominion be captured by an Asiatic horde of yellow races, these women voters would have ample cause for fearful regret, long continued, that they had so sadly misused their franchise privileges.

As illustrating how impossible it is to indicate with any degree of certainty how the women vote will go in an election, a case is cited of a candidate for parliamentary honors who, during the campaign, appeared at a public meeting so drunk that he fell off the platform. In view of the fact that the women voters of New Zealand are a unit on the question of prohibition, it was believed that in the case of this candidate his departure from the path of sobriety would cost him his election. But it didn't. On the contrary, he was elected, and largely by the women vote, their argument being that they could not bear to vote against him because of what might happen to his wife and family if he were defeated.

The history of the movement in New Zealand is decidedly instructive and not without its lessons to those countries which have not yet yielded to the imperative demands being made by the suffragettes for equal franchise rights with the men.

## MR. CROCKET UNEARTH'S STRANGE IRREGULARITY

**\$25,000 Dredging Contract Awarded A. & R. Loggie on Telegrapher's Error -- Went to Work in Wrong Place**

Ottawa, Feb. 1.—That twenty-five thousand dollars' worth of dredging was placed by a telegraph operator two years ago, and the work done, was the extraordinary fact developed at a meeting of the public accounts committee this morning.

The story which was told by Eugene LaFleur, chief engineer of the Department of Public Works, who was examined by Mr. Crocket, was that in the summer of 1909 he telegraphed Messrs. A. & R. Loggie to continue the dredging at Bathurst, New Brunswick. By the time the message reached the firm the word Bathurst had disappeared and in its place was the word "Dalhousie." So the Loggies went to work at Dalhousie on July 12 and by August 4 had moved \$25,000 worth of mud. On the first account sent in the error was discovered.

The original telegram in the Ottawa office showed the work ordered for Bathurst, and the message produced showed the word Dalhousie. The error was traced by the telegraph company. At Campbellton the message was right and when it got to Chatham its destination was wrong. The error was made between these two towns.

## HOTELS.

## Royal.

A. Macbeth, Boston; Jas. Gibson, Toronto; A. H. Webb, Halifax; F. W. Kirkpatrick, Toronto; Chas. F. Dole, Montreal; R. S. Keast, Toronto; O. K. Meyer, A. Rabinovich, Montreal; H. B. Sawyer, Battle, Me.; T. H. Bird, New York; H. L. Smith, J. A. W. Mulholland, G. Morrison, Halifax; A. Guisberg, Montreal; J. K. Pinder, Millville, Y. Co.; C. H. Emery, Eastport; M. W. Walton, Portland; Collin Campbell, J. Taylor, and wife, Montreal; Mrs. W. Mills, St. Stephen; N. W. Smith, St. Stephen; A. Dow, Miss M. Dow, Houlton, Me.; W. D. Gunter, R. W. McLehlan, Fredericton; D. J. S. Tyrer, Fredericton; F. Fredericksen, Winnipeg; Mrs. F. G. Loggie, Fredericton; B. C. Lewis, Boston; A. Berner, E. Kelley, Montreal; J. E. Gilles, Fredericton; J. D. Irving, Buctouche; H. F. Watt, Sydney; Mrs. A. B. Baisieal, Moncton; B. G. Todd, Montreal; H. Bradford, Halifax; R. Murray, Moncton; F. G. Fildes, A. C. Gye, A. Leslie, Montreal.

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Hector MacNeill, Baddock, C. B.; W. T. Anderson, P. E. I.; L. H. Wheaton, Moncton; H. M. Armstrong, Chipewyan; Bishop of Keewatin, Scott, Moncton; Mr. and Mrs. Forbes, Liverpool; H. L. Jones, Weymouth; F. A. Mulhall, Lawrenceville; W. B. Gamster, Bridgewater; A. W. Ebbett, Manville, Alta.; P. C. Ebert, Casterton; C. D. Conles, G. Gallagher, New York; M. J. Knox, Toronto; R. L. Day, J. M. O'Leary, Boston.

G. W. Miller, Calais; W. C. Melvin, Halifax; H. E. Lewis, St. Andrews; W. J. Dickson, Halifax; C. E. McKay, Brockville, Ont.; Sam. J. Richey, St. John, N. B.; John F. Calder, Campbell; S. A. Stafford, Lepreau.

## IN MEMORY OF SOUTH AFRICAN HEROES.

Sleep where their friends cannot find them today; They who in mountain and hillside and dell Rest where they wearied and lie where they fell; Softly the grass blade creeps round their repose; Sweetly above them the wild flower blows; Zephyrs of freedom fly gently o'er their head; Whispering names for the patriot dead.

So in our minds we will name them once more, So in our hearts we will cover them o'er; Roses and lilies and violets blue, Bloom in our souls for the brave and true, Cover them over—yes, cover them over; Parent and husband, and brother and lover; Think of those far-away heroes of ours, And cover them over with beautiful flowers.

When the long years have crept slowly by, E'en the glow of earth's funeral day; When at the archangel's trumpet and tread Rise up the faces and forms of the dead; When the great world its last judgment awaits, When the blue sky shall swing open its gates, When our long columns march silent, By through the clouds, Past the Great Captain, for final review.

Then for the blood that has flown for the right, Crowns shall be given, untarnished and bright, Then the glad ear of each war-martyred son Proudly shall hear the good judgment well done. Blessings for garlands, shall cover them over— Parent and husband, and brother and lover; God will reward those dead heroes of ours, And cover them over with beautiful flowers.

—Walter W. Holder, St. John, N. B., Feb. 1, 1911.

## 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 Labrador, during which I have seen and heard abundant evidence of the fact that Mother's Milk's Seasick Remedy appears to be, in nineteen cases out of twenty, an absolute cure for seasickness, 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, as I think it a duty to express my opinion on the subject. Yours truly,

NORTHCLIFFE, Sutton Place, Guildford Surrey, England.

Mother's Milk'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. Mother's Milk's Remedy Co., Ltd., Detroit, Mich., U. S. A.

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Blessings for garlands, shall cover them over— Parent and husband, and brother and lover; God will reward those dead heroes of ours, And cover them over with beautiful flowers.

—Walter W. Holder, St. John, N. B., Feb. 1, 1911.

**WORKED OVERTIME AS WELL.**

Jones was just putting on his overcoat when he casually remarked to Mrs. Jones that he would be working overtime that night.

"Don't wait for me, dear," he remarked: "I may be rather late than usual. But there, it cannot be helped."

At breakfast next morning he was stony silent, and the stillness of the room was not even broken by the tick-tick of the clock on the mantel-piece.

"Mary, dear," remarked Jones presently, "there is something wrong with the clock. I wound it up last night, too."

"Oh, no, you didn't," said Mrs. Jones, icily, "What you did wind up was Teddy's musical box, and when you came to bed at three o'clock this morning it was playing 'Home, Sweet Home.'"

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