

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 26, 1915.

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STILL BORING!

The Standard this morning is found engaged in its favorite occupation of making borings in connection with the Valley Railway. For a moment it abandons its seven-years quest for a proper route from Gagetown to St. John, and bores in the hope of ascertaining how it came about that certain opinions and statements placed before members of the Board of Trade in committee by Hon. Mr. Hazen and the Attorney-General have become something like public property.

No doubt that is an interesting line of inquiry, but at the moment the public, which is aware that the Federal Minister and the Attorney-General made a sudden change of base at the meeting in question with respect both to the Valley Railway and the Transcontinental, is waiting to hear from the Standard and from the council of the Board of Trade precisely what was said at that meeting.

A full and impartial report of all that was said there should have been published long ago, and should now be made public without delay.

Are we to infer from the Standard's outcry that either the Hon. Mr. Hazen or the Attorney-General said anything at the Board of Trade council meeting which, either of them, would not say in public? We trust not. These gentlemen, in their representative capacity only, and members of the Board of Trade in their representative capacity only, were dealing with matters which were essentially public, and not with the private concerns of individuals.

It became widely known after the meeting that the views expressed by the Ministers indicated sweeping changes of plans with respect to the whole Valley Railway scheme, changes vitally affecting the credit and future prospects of this city and province.

It has become known, also, that the views expressed at that meeting by representatives of the two governments were by no means in agreement with the views recently expressed by Premier Clarke, who still professes to be searching for a favorable crossing of the river in order that the railway may follow the east side route.

Although by seven years of boring Hon. Mr. Clarke may hope to build up a reputation for doing something, he scarcely can hope to avoid a public verdict against his administration which has wasted six years out of the seven and finds itself still at sea, or else is dishonestly misleading the public as to the real route and the real prospects of the Valley railway.

And speaking of Hon. Mr. Clarke's seven years of endeavor, one is reminded that mere persistence of that character is not necessarily a sign of genius. The premier is no doubt familiar with a gentleman mentioned by Dean Swift who "had been eight years upon a project for extracting sublimates out of cucumbers, which were to be put in phials hermetically sealed, and let out to warm the air in raw, inclement summers."

The Dean's man of research was engaged in his particular pursuit for one year longer than Hon. Mr. Clarke and his associates have yet occupied, but it may be feared that they cannot count upon another year of public patience.

If Hon. Mr. Cochrane, and Hon. Mr. Hazen, and Hon. Mr. Baxter, and Mr. F. P. Gutelius are firm and fast advocates now of the west side route and a Navy Island bridge, what will it avail the province or Hon. Mr. Clarke to bore for another year or so here and there along the banks of the St. John River?

As a matter of fact the whole Valley railway project is now up in the air. The recent re-organization of the company itself will probably be followed by the organization of a new construction company—and this is the next development upon which public attention must rest with the utmost vigilance.

Already reports are in circulation concerning this scheme. It may be hoped that if any such construction company is organized its personnel, and the connections and backing of its personnel, will be above suspicion. We shall see.

THE WAR.

What is certain in the Dardanelles is that the British have been pushing forward. Rumor says that two cruisers of the allied fleet have penetrated the Straits, but this is not confirmed. The tone of the despatches and the comments of military writers in London are, however, distinctly optimistic, and experts express hope of hearing of the Allies being in Constantinople by the end of September.

From Athens, whence comes much of the news relative to the campaign against Turkey, there is a report that the Porte threatens to make separate peace unless Germany declares war on Italy. This is but another sign supporting the general belief that Turkey sees that her end is near.

In Russia the Germans continue their effort to envelop the Grand Duke's retreating armies, but success seems no nearer and the softening ground is adding to Von Hindenburg's troubles in moving his heavy guns. The Grand Duke meantime has several lines of retreat still available and his rear guards may be counted upon to make the Germans pay dearly for every yard they advance in the world.

MANITOBA.

Conservative heads should hang for shame today in Manitoba. The Royal Commission's report on the parliament buildings scandal has been made public and, in its clarity and directness, is a tremendously farcical condemnation of the former Conservative premier, some political associates and a firm of contractors, for sheer robbery of the province.

The report of the Royal Commission is published in today's Times. It will be found to develop a sordid tale of theft from the people, a plot, designed with care and thoroughness, to pile up extra charges in the construction of the parliament buildings in Winnipeg. Of these large sums wrongfully taken from the people much was to go to an election fund. To carry out the scheme successfully it must be assured that Thomas Kelly & Sons be given the contract, and to do this all principles of right and justice were violated.

The Peter Lyall Company underbid the Kellys, but that was a matter soon adjusted. The head of the Kelly firm was told of the Lyall tender and was given opportunity to reduce his price, which he did by \$3,250, and secured the contract. Here is an extract from the report of the Royal Commission:

"That before the contract for the parliament buildings was entered into, a fraudulent scheme or conspiracy was formed to obtain an election fund out of extra in connection therewith; and to defer contemplated changes until after the contract was let, for the purpose of creating large extras for this purpose; that the parties in said scheme or conspiracy in its inception were the premier, Sir Rodmond Roblin, Mr. Colwell, the acting minister of public works, and Thomas Kelly, the senior member of Thomas Kelly & Sons."

It is shown that the province, in the carrying out of the gigantic steal, was fleeced out of \$362,000.10, and in language the purpose of which may not be misunderstood, Sir Rodmond Roblin, former Conservative premier of the province is declared one of the principals in this stupendous outrage.

As time went on fear of discovery arose and the Royal Commission plainly sets out its finding that Premier Roblin and Dr. Montague, then Minister of Public Works, deliberately destroyed an order-in-council and other papers bearing upon the matter.

Roblin's reasons for resignation have been well known for some time, but never have been so clearly shown as in the convincing report of the commission. He gave up office in time to save the ignominy of being cast out, but that is all he has saved so far as the respect of right-thinking people is concerned.

The people, in the recent elections, expressed themselves in no uncertain manner and Conservative rule was ended in the province. But does that end the matter? Must not wrong be made right? Are the guilty to go unpunished?

It would be interesting to know how Hon. Robert Rogers feels after reading the report of the Royal Commission on the Manitoba scandal.

Germany is adopting a more conciliatory tone in its communications with the United States government over the sinking of the Lusitania. She is yet to be heard from, however, on the Lusitania murder.

Former President Roosevelt does not mix matters when he expresses his opinion of the course the United States has followed relative to the war. "An ignoble part among the nations" is his phrasing of it.

There should be general and prompt response to the campaign just being started here for recruits and for money for the Patriotic Fund. Those who cannot go to fight at least can do something in the way of contribution to ensure proper provision for the dear ones whom the fighting men have left at home.

St. John has a whole-hearted welcome for Captain H. H. Smith, a former resident, who is in the city today after gallantly doing his share at the front. All will wish him steady recovery from the wounds he received at Langemarck. His tribute to the efficiency of Major Frank Magee's heavy battery adds to St. John's pride in the work of her gallant sons.

A happily married woman, who had enjoyed thirty-three years of wedlock, and whose husband was of four beautiful little children, had an amusing old colored woman for a cook. One day when a box of especially beautiful flowers was left for the mistress, the cook happened to be present, and she said: "Yo' husband send you all the pretty flowers you gets, Missy?" "Certainly, my husband, Mammy," proudly answered the lady. "Glory! exclaimed the cook, 'he sutenly an holdin' out well."

A LIFETIME OF SICKNESS

Worn Out, Thin and Miserable Until She Took "Fruit-a-tives"

Palmetto, Ont., June 20th, 1914. "Stomach Trouble and Distressing Headaches nearly drove me wild. Some time ago, I got a box of 'Fruit-a-tives,' your famous fruit medicine, and they completely relieved me. Today I am feeling fine and a physician, meeting me on the street, asked the reason for my improved appearance. I said, 'I am taking Fruit-a-tives.' He said, 'If Fruit-a-tives make you look so well, go ahead and take them. They are doing more for you than I can.'"

Mrs. H. S. WILLIAMS. 60c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c. At dealers or sent on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Numberless are the stories told of George Washington. Upon one occasion, while the American army was in camp, Washington heard that the colored sentries were not altogether reliable. He determined to test the matter for himself. One night, therefore, when the password was "Cambridge," the general went out, and walked up to a colored sentry.

"Who goes there?" cried the sentinel. "A friend," was the reply. "Advance, friend, and give the counter sign."

"Roxburgh," said Washington. "No, sah," replied the soldier. "Medford," said Washington. "No, sah," was the response. "Charleston," said Washington.

The sentry lost patience. "I tell you, Massa Washington," he said emphatically, "no man can go by here without he say 'Cambridge.'"

Serpt Pitts believed in handling his men firmly. Pausing before one recruit he eyed him sternly. "Now, then, pull yourself together," he barked harshly. "You're standing all wrong! Your uniform's not put on right, your buttons are dirty and you're holding your rifle like a hay fork. Let's see if you can march. Right about face!"

The recruit stood stock still and heaved a sigh of relief. "Thank goodness," he said, with resignation. "I'm right about something."

Two farmers, attired in corduroys and gaiters, were strolling through a picture gallery, where they looked, and apparently felt, decidedly out of place. But at last they brought up before a picture which really seemed to please them—a portrait of a lovely girl with a particularly ugly bulldog.

"This is something nice, Dick," said one. "What is it called?" Dick referred to the catalogue. "Beauty and the Beast," he said. The other man looked closer at the picture.

"Ah!" he sighed, appreciatively, "he is a beauty, too!"

Yet were we simply to say that we are showing a complete line of Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Diamonds and other Precious Stones, that we are Opticians, Watch and Jewelry Repairers, that we have a very fine selection of Sterling Silver, Electro Plate and Cut Glass, while it would be all with in the truth, it would be a poorly written ad.

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Had "Cholera Infantum."

Cholera Infantum is one of the most common summer complaints of infants, and many die who could be saved if taken in hand on the first sign of the trouble. It begins with a profuse diarrhoea, very often accompanied by vomiting, and the matter ejected from the stomach has a bilious appearance. The child rapidly loses flesh and becomes weak and languid.

Mrs. W. Falla, 455 Jones Ave., Toronto, Ont., writes: "I have used Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry for my three boys, and I do believe it saved their lives. One of them had cholera infantum so bad he was wasted to a shadow, and the doctor had given him up, but 'Dr. Fowler's' cured him. I have also used it myself for colic and find it an excellent remedy. I would not be without it in the house."

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RECENT WEDDINGS

A quiet wedding took place yesterday morning at the Bungalow, Idlewild, when Ethel May Holder and Arnold W. Heas, of St. John, were united in marriage by Rev. Gordon Dickie, of St. John.

The ceremony took place on the veranda of the cottage under an arch of maple leaves, trimmed with the national flag. The bride was nicely attired in a gown of hand embroidered with volles and she was given away by her father, Charles W. Holder. Later a dainty luncheon was served. Mr. and Mrs. Heas then left for a canoeing trip along the St. John river.

At Farmington, N. H., during the 68 days ended Aug. 10, there were only two in which rain did not fall at some time in the twenty-four hours.