

MR. WOODS A PLUM WRIGHT AS WELL AS A MANAGER

One of His Plays, "Billy The Kid" is Remembered Here.

SIEGE OF QINAGA HAD NOTHING ON IT

Has had Success in Theatrical Career, and Many Present Day Stars Owe Success to Him.

The following report approving the principle of Com. Year's local improvement Act was adopted by the council of the Board of Trade yesterday, and will be submitted to the meeting of the council on Monday.

To the council of Board of Trade, St. John, N. B.:

MR. WALTER WOODS

In the theatrical Who's Who of America, Walter Woods of the Thompson Woods Stock Company, now playing at the Opera House, has two claims to distinction, in the first place he is the greatest little leader of reform in the show business and in the second he is the sole author of "Billy the Kid" of the first record he talks with pleasure but he does not say much about the second, that is not until he has been cornered and then he hastens to explain that he is doing his best to live it down.

Mr. Woods told it properly is a member of the firm of Thompson & Woods of Boston. For a number of years he has been prominent in theatrical ventures and at the present time in addition to the local company they are proprietors of the Brockton Stock Company as well as a number of profitable road organizations. Starting out as an advance agent, Mr. Woods soon learned the essential things in that end of the theatrical business. He could talk shop with the tank town reporters and jolly them into a half column of free advertising right under the nose of the business manager and then make them feel they were indebted to him for a good story. It is said of him that he was a success a head of a show but his immortal soul was not satisfied.

Way down deep under his hat he had the idea that as a real live actor he had the most of them lashed to the mast and every time he had an opportunity to allow his show to catch with him he used to stand in the back of the house first nights and make faces at the hero just by way of showing his utter contempt for all so-called actors.

Finally one dark night his boss happened to be in the audience and not a commotion in the rear of the theatre, wended his way back to find Walter making a contemptuous moue (the writer has been told that "moue" is a very stylish word, and much more up to date than moue, which it is intended to represent, consequently "moue" goes proof reader or no proof reader). Anyway that what he was making. Well when the boss came along and surprised the advance man as his villainy he uttered a few utterances to the effect that if Mr. Woods was not satisfied with the work of the ladies and gentlemen on the stage he could either show that he could do better himself or else throw up his job. Truly opportunity was knocking at his door with an axe.

In consequence he was translated from the back of the house to the back of the stage and for some time played with success. But the discontent was strong in him and from showing that actors, all and sundry, did not know their business he started in to criticize the plays. He said he would write better ones himself and again alone came opportunity with an axe. Consequently he evolved "Billy the Kid." Ever see Billy the Kid? Then you have no idea what you have missed. Funny how some people are born to fortune. The writer has seen it and he thought he would ever look upon its like again he would at once give the genial author an opportunity to become plaintiff in a suit for assault and battery.

However, such as it is, Mr. Woods wrote it and it was a money maker. Also it was once in St. John. Just a little more than a year ago "Billy" arrived for a one night's visit. Early the next morning he left and has not returned. Possibly a brief resume of the story of the piece which brought money and enemies to Mr. Woods might be of interest.

A nice lovable youth named Willie,

COMMITTEE APPROVES OF PAVING LAW

Receive Report of Committee of Board of Trade at Meeting of Council Yesterday.

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At Odds Over Fight for Amendment



Mrs. Sherman Booth

There is disruption in the ranks of woman suffragists here which affects many women throughout the country.

At present there is little indication of a settlement, further than that the wings of the suffragettes will work independently for the passage of the amendment to the federal constitution granting to women the right to vote, saying as little as possible about their differences.

When the Congressional Union announced its policy to work against the party in power should it refuse to pass the suffrage amendment, Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, president of the National Association, denounced the methods of the Congressional Union as opposed to those of the national organization. She characterized the policy as being modelled after the methods of Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, in England.

The campaign of the national body, Mrs. Shaw said, will be non-partisan. Each member of Congress opposing woman suffrage will be campaigned against in his own district, she said.

Through clever manoeuvring the Congressional Union has now been severed from all connection with the National Association.

The National Association has opened headquarters. Mrs. Medill McCormick is the chairman. Mrs. McCormick is being assisted by Mrs. Antoinette Funk and Mrs. Sherman Booth, both of Chicago, in the campaign for the suffrage amendment.

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P. E. ISLAND MAN IS HEAD OF VANCOUVER POLICE

DENIES THAT HE INTENDS TO RETIRE

B. F. Smith Contradicts Statement of Opposition Press of Withdrawal from Active Part in Politics.

Hardland, N. B., Jan. 27.—"I have never made any statement, to any paper or party, what my intentions are along political lines. If any statements have appeared in the public press, as coming from me, they are entirely without foundation." These are the words of Mr. B. F. Smith, of Florenceville, in answer to a query by your correspondent as to the truth of his persistent remarks here regarding his withdrawal from an active part in politics in Carleton county.

Mr. Smith's statement, as given above, the inference must be drawn that somebody is making politics where there is little material to work with.

That there is good stage talent in Hardland was bountifully shown on Monday evening, when some members of the High school here put on the boards at the Lyric a delightful little comedy in three acts entitled "All Tangled Up." There was a capacity house and the audience was delighted with laughter from the rise of the curtain until the last lines were spoken in the third act.

The play was a very well played for an amateur aggregation. The male actors were Curtis Simmons, Kenneth Keith, Lyric Olsen, Ray Plummer and George Boyer; while the ladies in the cast were Misses Mary Carr, Pearl Ridcomb and Anna Murdoch. Each player did justice to his or her part, and it would be difficult to say who carried off the honors of the evening.

Miss Elsa Sippel furnished excellent music between the acts. The proceeds of the entertainment go towards providing additions to the books in the school library.

Principal Alexander and his wife deserve no small degree of praise for their part in the training of the pupils and the general management of the play.

Col. Marsh, of Fredericton, who last week celebrated his 85th birthday, is a native of Carleton county, and was born in Upper Simonsville, N. B., 55 years ago. Like the late chief constable, he grew up with the force—or rather the force grew up with him.

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Malcolm B. McLellan Appointed as Successor to Chief Mulhern.

MARITIME PROVINCE MEN TAKING LEAD

Former Nova Scotian Telegrapher's Interesting Reminiscences—Repeated First Message Over Atlantic Cable from Queen Victoria to U.S. President

Correspondence of The Standard.

23.—Although the death of Mr. Charles Mulhern, formerly of Woodstock, and latterly chief of the Vancouver Police Department, reared one of the most prominent New Brunswickers of this city, the promotions resulting from his death have brought into prominence two other natives of the Maritime Provinces.

The office of chief constable is now filled by Mr. Malcolm Bruce McLellan, a native of Montague, P. E. I., who during the months of Chief Mulhern's illness administered the affairs of the department in a manner which made his selection by the police commissioners to fill the vacancy unanimous.

His promotion has been typical of the rapidity with which efficient officers may rise in the West. Joining the force in 1901 as a constable, 26 years old, he secured his first elevation in 1907, when he became a patrol sergeant, and in 1912, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant.

He was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 1912, when Deputy Mulhern was appointed chief. About ten years ago he married Miss Burpee, a New Brunswicker who at that time was organist of St. Andrew's, the leading Presbyterian church.

The mantle of the deputyship has also descended upon a native of Prince Edward Island in the person of William McRae, formerly Chief of Detectives. The new deputy was born in Flat River, P. E. I., 38 years ago and joined the local department as a constable in 1902.

Nor is the police the only department administered by a Maritime Province man. The other great branch of what might be termed the "Department of Public Safety," is captained by Mr. J. H. Carlisle, head of the fighting force of Vancouver. Chief Carlisle was born in Hillsboro, N. B., 55 years ago. Like the late chief constable, he grew up with the force—or rather the force grew up with him.

A prominent merchant of Parrsboro and a native of Prince Edward Island died in the General Hospital here last week in the person of Mr. A. E. McLeod. Mr. McLeod was a native of health and was visiting his brother-in-law, Mr. T. H. B. Witter, Lakewood Drive, near to leaving for a health resort in California.

Mr. Henry Lawson, a native of Prince Edward Island, celebrated his eighty-fourth birthday in Victoria last week.

To have worked as a telegrapher for nearly sixty years, during which he was employed on nearly every important telegraph line in America, has been the experience of Mr. W. F. Archibald, who last month, celebrated his seventy-sixth birthday. He has been manager of the C. P. R. office in Nanaimo, Vancouver Island, for nearly nineteen years and an office of the C. P. R. for over twenty-four years.

There are few men that up to a short time ago could send faster than Archibald, who must soon retire, however, because of his failure in his eyesight.

Mr. Archibald's experience anticipated the introduction of the cable wire across the Atlantic. He remembers the days of the pony express in the Maritime Provinces, when the source of a cable service, newspapers were taken off the steamers from the old country and carried by hard-riding horsemen to the nearest railway line, thence to be conveyed to the nearest telegraph office for transfer to the Associated Press.

He started at telegraphy in 1852 in Nova Scotia, and six years later had the honor of repeating the first message that ever came over the Atlantic.

ATTACK ON BAY OF FUNDY BY CAPT. CLIFT REFUTED IN HOUSE BY HON. MR. HAZEN

Capt. Clift is not an Official of Marine Department.

STATEMENT IS BOTH UNFAIR AND UNJUST

Report on Cobequid Disaster will, in all Probability, Show it was Not due to any Inherent Danger in Bay.

Special to The Standard.

Jan. 26.—The attack upon the Bay of Fundy, which has been made by a number of the Liberal newspapers, including the Ottawa Free Press, has caused keen controversy in the House of Commons.

Mr. Woods was born in Erie, Pa. His father was the editor of a newspaper there, which, however, after he changed their minds. They said he ought to be an armament trust. Since that time he has done about as he wished, always managing to keep out of the clutches of the law. As a theatrical manager he has been particularly successful. By his tact, ability and knowledge of what the people want, he has managed to turn many apparent failures into pronounced successes and in this connection is especially proud of the record his company has made in St. John.

When a permanent stock, with one bill a week was first announced for the Opera House the theatre-going public were certain it could not be successfully conducted, but Mr. Woods thought otherwise and has proven the wisdom of his judgment. In Holyoke, Mass., he had a similar experience, and yet the company played the longest engagement on record in Holyoke, and proved a prime favorite for months. Mr. Woods is particularly enthusiastic over St. John. It is his intention to keep the company here until the end of May and during the summer run the Opera House for travelling attractions. Next season the Thompson-Woods stock will return with as many of the present favorites as possible.

St. John theatre-goers owe much to Walter Woods, his foresight, enterprise, pluck and money, have made possible the most enjoyable attraction for years. Aside from a momentary lapse, of which "Billy the Kid" was the result, he has done no harm to any man. And he is doing his best to live his one mistake down. So let all join in helping him to forget. He is a great man.

the articles is an alleged interview with Captain R. F. Clift, of Montreal, who was a passenger on the ill-fated Cobequid, and who is credited with the statement that "it is nothing short of manslaughter, no, it is worse, it is murder, to compel vessels to traverse the Bay of Fundy at a season when such terrifying hurricanes are likely to crop up and when fogs make it almost impossible to be certain of a safe passage."

An attempt has been made to prove that Capt. Clift is an official of the Marine and Fisheries Department, and to convey the impression that Capt. Clift's views were the official views of the department.

Capt. Clift is not an official of the Marine and Fisheries Department, he is a retired sailing master living in Montreal. "From time to time," said Hon. J. D. Hazen, in referring to the matter in the Commons, "for a good many years past the wreck commissioner in investigating wrecks in the Bay of Fundy has on several occasions called Capt. Clift in for such purpose and he has acted in the capacity of a nautical assessor. But he is not an official of the department; he is not in the pay of the department. The impression which it would seem he himself tries to create that he is an official is entirely without foundation in fact."

"I had read," said Mr. Hazen, in a warm defence of the Bay of Fundy and the port of St. John, "the unfair and unjust statement to which the honorable gentleman refers and knowing what a slander it was against the Bay of Fundy, at once called the attention of the Board of Trade of St. John to the matter and suggested that it would place the facts fairly before the public. Inquiry had been made into the wreck of the Cobequid, by the wreck commissioner, Capt. Lindsay, assisted by two nautical assessors, and I understood that the report and judgment of that court had been prepared and in a few days will be given to the public through the press. While I have no right to forestall the conclusions which the court has reached, yet, having followed the evidence given at the enquiry with a considerable degree of care, I venture to express the belief that it will be found that the wreck commissioner are not of opinion that the wreck was due to any inherent danger existing in the Bay of Fundy but to other causes altogether."

"I think it unfortunate, that in connection with the disaster of this sort anyone should attempt to make capital against any special locality or any special waters over which navigation is to be taken. Charges from time to time have been made with regard to the navigation of the Bay of Fundy as there are dangers to be found in all waters which ships navigate."

Yet I think it has been demonstrated in the past time and again that the dangers which exist in the Bay of Fundy are no greater than those which exist in many other navigable

waters of the world. A good many years ago, when the late Senator Ellis was a member of this House some charges of this character were made on the floor of parliament when the question was being discussed of subsidizing steamers from ports in Great Britain to Canada.

This was in 1887 or 1888. Senator Ellis put upon the record of Hansard where it can be found by any one who is interested, a statement carefully prepared by the Board of Trade of St. John, showing the ships coming to and going from the Bay of Fundy, and the number of ships, and the number of casualties occurring over a long period of years. The facts demonstrated by the Bay of Fundy are less than the casualties in many other parts of the world upon which no attack has been made. It would be improper for me to refer to the statistics of navigation.

It will be found, I believe, if a comparison be made, and no one attacks the records of the St. Lawrence, that the record of the Bay of Fundy is quite equal, if not superior, as far as casualties are concerned, to the great St. Lawrence route from the sea to Quebec and on to Montreal."

At this point the speaker interrupted Mr. Hazen saying: "I think this is going beyond what is allowed, and I think it would be rather a dangerous precedent to allow this debate to proceed on this stage."

"I must bow at once to your decision, Mr. Speaker," replied Mr. Hazen, who evidently felt keenly the aspersion which had been cast upon the waters upon which the port of St. John is situated, "and perhaps I may take a more fitting occasion to refer to the question."

"I must content myself now with saying that the casualty under discussion did not occur in the Bay of Fundy. I think that the inquiry by the wreck commissioner into the causes of the wreck of the Cobequid would be found to have been of the fullest possible character, and the result would be given to the public as soon as it is possible to do so."

SECRETARY OF BOARD OF TRADE RESIGNS

The resignation of H. T. Hoag, secretary of the St. John Board of Trade, was presented to the council of the board at a meeting yesterday. The resignation, which came as a surprise to the council, was not accompanied by any explanation, but it was of a definite character, the council was forced to accept. It will take effect on March 1.

TAFT IS IMPRESSED BY VISIT TO CANADA

Thinks Canadians a Great People, and he had a Fine Time — Made Many Friends in Toronto.

Toronto, Jan. 30.—"You are a great people, you Canadians, I wish you prosperity. I have had a charming visit and a splendid time. I have met many and will carry away with me the kindest thoughts of the citizens of Toronto. Just give them my best regards and tell them that I ask their forgiveness if I have tired them."

This was the farewell message of William H. Taft before leaving Toronto for Ottawa this morning. Mr. Taft was escorted to his train by Sir John Gibson and party. Once in a compartment ex-President Taft was surrounded by newly-made friends. He shook hands all round and thanked Sir John for his hospitality.

If expect to be in Ottawa tonight and will likely go over to your legs. It all goes well I will be back in New Haven for church on Sunday.