

The Mark That Tells

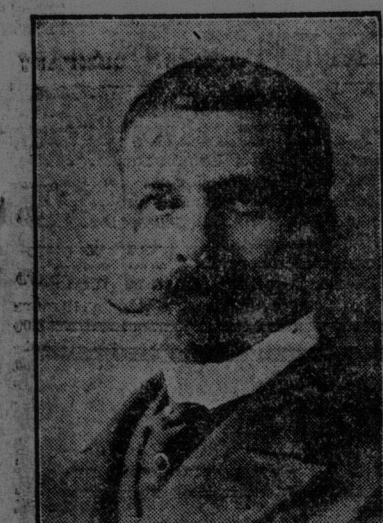
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BETTER UNDERWEAR

BOURASSA MOVES FOR COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE RUMORS

Resolution, However, Was Defeated on Straight Party Vote, 109 to 56.

OTTAWA, March 26. — Today Mr. Bourassa asked the commons for a committee to investigate the Foster, Fowler, Bennett, Lafourge business.



HENRI BOURASSA, M. P.

Which the insurance commission thought to public view. He also asked that the committee should have power to ask Mr. Fowler what he meant by his "women, wine and graft" threat, and what the press meant by its insinuations. Mr. Laurier declined to grant the committee. He said that the insurance commission had reported all there was to find out about the transactions. He said that it was not the business of parliament to investigate personal affairs of members when there was nothing but rumor and insinuation to base them on. Mr. Borden supported Mr. Bourassa's motion for the committee. The House voted the committee by a vote of 109 to 56. It was a straight party division. Mr. Bourassa, Armand Lavergne and Mr. Robitaille, three Independents, voted for the resolution. Mr. Foster and Mr. Fowler did not vote, because they are named in the resolution. The galleries were thronged all day. The house itself was full. The sitting was one of the most important of the session.

NEW YORK, March 25. — Charles M. Schwab has had his personal assessment for taxing purposes cut down from a million to \$400,000. He was listed at a million under the non-resident law. He had an inventory of his New York effects before President Taft's order of the department of taxes and assessment's today, when he swore his property in person in this city amounted to \$400,000 and this was set down as the tentative assessment. Mr. Schwab, Reginald Vanderbilt, and former Senator William A. Clark are the only three persons on the tax list assessed at a million dollars or over.

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GOVERNMENT REQUESTED TO WITHDRAW PRESENT BILL

Ward System Had Few Friends at Last Night's Meeting—Committee of Ten Citizens Appointed to Discuss With Council Any Changes that May Be Considered Advisable—Pots' Amendment for Plebiscite on City Commission Defeated.

There were 750 citizens present at the public meeting in the Opera House last night when the proposed change in the election of aldermen was discussed. The aldermen were somewhat scored, a committee was appointed to meet the aldermen in regard to civic affairs and a copy of a resolution asking that the bill be stayed, was sent to the Legislature at Fredericton. A collection was taken at which \$23.15 was received. Mayor Sears, chairman, opened the meeting at 8 1/2 o'clock. He read the letter from A. O. Skinner, asking him to act as chairman. He then called upon A. O. Skinner and others to speak, receiving his own views till late. A. O. Skinner was received with applause. His Worship then said: "Gentlemen, leave this meeting in your hands. This is a meeting where free speech is invited."

T. Donovan Roasts Times
T. Donovan then rose to a question of privilege. Here his worship was then requested to continue as chairman. Mr. Donovan sent Mr. Donovan to the platform amid cheers. He did not expect that one of the press would hold the people who took part in the meeting up to ridicule. He then read the objectionable article from the Times. He thought that it was beneath any decent journalist. "I am a citizen and a taxpayer, who feels keenly the injustice of increased taxation, who hums to offer a humble protest. Then to be held up to ridicule by the press is too much. They say the Times is an off-shoot of the Telegraph, which is a respectable paper, and I wish he would exercise his influence upon its organs." W. Frank Hatheway then began to speak and was urged to take the platform. He moved all speakers not moving a resolution should be allowed more than ten minutes. A. O. Skinner moved J. N. Harvey act as secretary. This was carried. Mr. Hatheway's motion was seconded and carried. Mr. Skinner was then called on to explain how the matter came to this pitch. He then spoke of the manner of the appointment of the delegation to go to Fredericton and what had been done there. "If the majority of the present aldermen ask the Legislature to give us a plebiscite, I am quite sure such a request will be granted. I have never heard of the duty of the citizens to advance some other scheme to be promoted at the same time." A. H. Hanington was then called to the platform.

Committee to Confer With Council
Mr. Skinner was then requested to read the following resolution, which he had prepared. The resolution was received with applause. "Resolved, That the Common Council of the City of Saint John is humbly requested to withdraw the bill at present before the Legislature with reference to the election of aldermen; "And further resolved, That a committee of ten citizens be nominated and elected at this meeting, with power to add, to confer with the Common Council in regard to any changes that may be thought necessary or advisable in the mode of electing aldermen; "And further resolved, That if any change may be deemed advisable and a bill shall be prepared and submitted by the Common Council to the Legislature of the Province of New Brunswick at the next session thereof, to bring such changes into effect, but any such bill shall contain a provision that the change shall not be made until a vote of the citizens be taken thereon by plebiscite; "And further resolved, That the said committee be authorized at any time, if deemed necessary, to request the mayor of the City of Saint John to call a meeting of the citizens to consider the question of such changes." J. N. Harvey seconded the resolution, saying he was against the present system. A gentleman in the audience asked if this resolution meant a want of confidence in the present aldermen. Chairman—"It certainly does." J. H. Montgomery then took the platform amid loud applause. He said he was not going to read the resolution, but he would help the chairman to read a newspaper clipping he had of how the taxes had increased. The mayor was for lumping the accounts, but Mr. Montgomery objected. He took off his coat and read the article himself. Referring to the increase of taxes, he said if this thing goes on for a few more years the city will be sold at auction. The mayor interrupted him, saying he should speak to the resolution. Mr. Montgomery said: "Oh no, I'll speak on this first." A. H. Hanington said he was strongly in favor of the present resolution. It was not a vote of want of confidence in the aldermen, although it was opposed to the resolution of the aldermen. "I think the aldermen forgot who elected them, and the positions they occupied. I hope you will pass the resolution unanimously." (Loud applause.) W. Frank Hatheway was called, but remained seated.

A. W. MacIntyre was then called to the platform. He said that while he was at the council the plan was often discussed to change the system of election of aldermen, but it was never without the proviso of appealing to the people. There were then cries for Potts, Potts and others, one saying: "This thing is too one-sided." **Potts' Amendment Lost**
P. Potts then spoke. He said there was a redeeming feature in the matter. The aldermen wanted to increase the number of aldermen. They wanted to get four level-headed men in the council. (Applause.) Those four might have leavened the whole lump. After reading last evening's Star he decided to move an amendment to any resolution that came up.

He closed by moving the following amendment: "Resolved that this meeting consider it inexpedient to take any further action at present in connection with the act now before the legislature; "Further resolved that a plebiscite be taken during the present year to give the people a chance to determine upon which the council should be elected and the members of such council, or whether they would abolish the council altogether and have the city government managed by a commission." **An Expensive Appendix**
Mayor Sears then put the resolution. Mr. Donovan in seconding it said the change was made with a will so as to get a better class of men in the council. He said he was always in favor of the ward system. The matter of a ward is now left to the director of public works, who is an expensive appendage to the city. He said the man in Queen's ward as well as the man in Duke's ward contributes to the general fund, why not then allow every man to have a voice in electing every alderman? Mr. Kelley was then called upon. He thought the mayor should be congratulated for his gracious conduct in calling the citizens together. "The man in Queen's ward as well as the man in Duke's ward contributes to the general fund, why not then allow every man to have a voice in electing every alderman?" The most vicious feature of the present bill is that it comes into operation in three years.

"I have to register a complaint against the daily press. Their criticism tends to make the alderman treacherous and fearful of the public. I have never read a worthy act of an alderman lauded yet. I hope the newspaper will change their tune and sing a song of praise." Mr. Kelley was loudly cheered on leaving the platform. Mr. Sprague said he had moved the resolution in favor of a plebiscite. He wanted to know the hurry for saddling the people with something they did not want. Ex-Ald. Douglas McArthur then appeared on the stage. He said if it was decided by the council to have a plebiscite, then it would be the duty of the aldermen to ask for a plebiscite. He said he would support the bill at all times, and he referred to the heads of departments, saying the aldermen worshipped them. Andrew Malcolm said the meeting should understand that as it now stood the resolution seemed to be in favor of the bill at all times, and he made some characteristic remarks. Dr. Frink—"We are asked to vote upon something about which many of us are not at all conversant." A. O. Skinner then briefly delineated the provisions of the proposed bill and spoke at some length on the resolution. "Voice—"What is the qualification for an alderman?" Mayor Sears then spoke, saying that he would be happy to authorize a committee of St. John and of the province of New Brunswick. He felt that he was bound by the nature of his position and by the fact that the people had assured him the present act was not a popular one. He spoke against the present system, and he said he thought the majority of the people were in favor of the ward system. He said he wished to have the confidence of the people as he had last election day. Everything he had done was done conscientiously. He thought the new bill would help the city. Kendall Hall—"Who are the promoters of this bill? We don't know." Chairman—"That is beyond my province." He then put Mr. Potts' amendment, which was lost. The motion was then put and was carried by a large majority and amid much cheering.

Asks Withdrawal of Bill
A. H. Hanington then moved the following: "Resolved, That the citizens of Saint John are opposed to the proposed changes in the mode of electing aldermen, as set out in the bill prepared by the Common Council and submitted to the Legislature, or any other changes being made in mode of electing aldermen, until the question is first submitted to a vote of the citizens by a plebiscite; and further resolved, That this meeting humbly requests the Lieutenant Governor and Legislature of the Province of New Brunswick to withhold assent to any bill providing for any change in the mode of electing aldermen during the present session of the Legislature, and that the matter may be fully considered by the citizens of Saint John." The resolution was passed and was sent immediately to Premier Pugsley at Fredericton. A. O. Skinner, W. Frank Hatheway, J. E. Baxter, A. H. Hanington, J. E. Wilson, Jos. A. Likely, A. W. MacIntyre, J. King Kelley, Dr. A. D. Smith, Geo. A. Kimball, Miles E. Agar, Andrew Malcolm, J. N. Harvey, O. H. Ward, were nominated on to the committee. A. W. MacIntyre and Ald. Baxter were withdrawn. The others being appointed the committee to interview the aldermen as proposed in the resolution.

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AGE OF THINKING JUST BEGUN ON EARTH, SAYS PROF. WARD

We Are a Little Matter of Twenty-four Million Years Behind the People of Mars in the Progress of Mental Development, He Declares.

That Mars is nearly 24,000,000 years in advance of the earth in the evolution of the thinking faculty is the profound conclusion of Lester F. Ward, LL.D., professor of sociology in Brown University, in an article which appears in the current number of the Brown Alumni Monthly.

Prof. Ward has prepared two diads showing the cosmic day or life history of the two planets, in which he sets forth that while the inhabitants of Mars have exercised the thinking faculty for six hours, representing 24,000,000 years, the earth's denizens have had the thinking habit but six minutes on the dial, representing 60,000 years. This makes it appear that the intellectual development of the Martians must be amazing, and gives the inhabitants of the earth a staggering idea of what the future holds for the human beings of this very progressive sphere.

The history of a planet, according to Prof. Ward, may be divided into three periods. The first extends from the time that it is thrown out from the sun, to the time that it reaches its orbit, and has formed and the temperature of its enveloping waters has fallen to or somewhat below the boiling point. The second period extends from this latter date to that at which either its waters or its atmosphere or both have been absorbed and the planet has been wholly converted into solid matter. The third embraces the remainder of its existence.

THE ORIGIN OF LIFE.
The third period is to all appearances eternal, although the human mind refuses to accept this view. Prof. Ward continues:

"Of these three periods in the history of a planet we are at least safe in saying that the second or intermediate one is much shorter than either the first or the last. It forms, relatively, but a brief span in the vast cycle of ages. Nevertheless, this is the stage in which all our interest centres, and for us it constitutes the life of the planet. And here we begin to see the world in its literal sense, for this is the period which embraces all life. In the case of the earth that is treated as geology, and in the case of Mars it does the same for aerology, as I am using the term. "The most important fact connected with our earth at the beginning of this period was the origin of life. Whatever theory we may adopt as to the particular way in which life began, it is at least certain that in some way it did begin about as soon as the conditions of the earth's surface became such as to permit its existence. And we may well accept Prof. Lowell's view, shared by many others, that for

S. A. EMIGRANT STEAMER HAS ROUGH TIME ACROSS ATLANTIC

HALIFAX, N. S., March 26.—With a heavy port list, the result of her cargo shifting during her battle with terrific gales, the Dominion liner Vancouver came into port this afternoon, three days overdue. The steamer sailed from Liverpool on the 14th at 3 P. M., with 151 second cabin and 623 stowage passengers, 780 in all. The immigrants came under the auspices of the Salvation Army and they were given a grand send-off as the ship sailed from Liverpool. A brass band of the Salvation Army was played at the dock, as well as many members of army and friends of those departing for Canada. Previous to casting off the lines speeches were made by the agent for South Australia, members of parliament and others, and the tugboat, crowded with Salvationists and friends, accompanied the ship some distance down the Mersey. The passengers are all of a superior class and were not assisted financially, all paying their passages. Fifty of them were Dutch and the remainder English. One hundred and twenty of them are destined for Winnipeg and the Northwest, 130 remain in Nova Scotia, while others go to places in Quebec and Ontario. The majority of them are single men, and 90 per cent are under 35 years of age. After the steamer was docked, the following message of welcome from General Booth was read to the passengers by Colonel Bates, who came out in charge of the party: "Winnipeg, March 26.—The general Salvation Army and the heart of Canada welcome you to these shores, a workingman's home, with its sufficient comforts and its untold blessings and heaven at the finish is right before you, but you may have difficulties to meet and temptations to resist and devils to fight at the outset, but hard work and perseverance and the blessing of God and the help of the Salvationists will carry you through. I send you my blessing and trust you will be a credit to our flag." The steamer met with a continuation of terrific head gales and tremendous seas almost the entire way over. The decks were continually washed by seas, and the ship pitched and rolled in a most alarming manner, the majority of the passengers being sick the whole way. By careful handling, however, the steamer came through the storms without serious damage. She kept well to the south to avoid ice, and save none. About four days ago the cargo shifted, putting the ship over on her side so badly that it was with the greatest difficulty that those on board could move about. Before sailing for Portland, Maine, she will take 100 tons of coal in her bunkers on the starboard side, and this will put her on an even keel.

JUST BEGINNING TO THINK.
Prof. Ward estimates that the psychologic, or age of thinking, has just arrived on the earth, while on Mars the process has gone on for millions of years. Mars, of course, left the central mass ages before the earth did, and is about 20,000,000 miles further from the sun. At the time Mars swung off the central mass it had a diameter of 283,000,000 miles, while the earth was only 8,000,000 miles in diameter. Mars therefore makes the difference of age between Mars and the earth as 24,000,000. Prof. Ward adds: "We may suppose, then, that the history of the two planets was practically the same for the first 22,000,000 years, or to the end of their tertiary period. To this then we must add for Mars the time that has elapsed since it reached this stage, viz. the 24,000,000 years which represented the difference in the ages of the two planets. Mars, and dividing it into 24 hours, each hour will represent 1,000,000 years instead of 2,000,000, as in the case of the earth. "We have now the best reasons for supposing that at the beginning of this quarterly period, as upon the earth, some one of the manifold forms of life on Mars developed a thinking faculty far in excess of all others, which gave it dominion over the rest, and ultimately over its physical condition as well. Thus was ushered in the psychologic age of Mars, upon which the earth is, as we may say, just entering. "We stand appalled before those 24,000,000 years, and what the course of this strange history can have been.

MARRIAGE OF ILITERATES
Many Couples Wed in Switzerland Who Cannot Read or Write.
GENEVA, March 26.—Statistics just published show that during last year 141 couples who could neither read nor write were married in Switzerland. Most of them made a cross or star in the register book, but others insisted on the pastor or registrar holding their hands and tracing their names on the marriage certificates. It is only fair to the Swiss to state that 50 per cent of the illiterate brides and bridegrooms hailed from Italy.

BRITISH SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO POPE
ROME, March 26.—The Osservatore Romano publishes the text of a letter to Pius X, and signed by the Duke of Norfolk and Lord Landaff, on behalf of the Catholic Union of Great Britain relating to the ecclesiastical crisis in France. The writers conclude with His Holiness' over the continuation of the church property which has filled us with profound indignation. The letter proceeds to congratulate the Vicar of Christ, whose voice has never been heard more clearly and courageously or with more complete disregard for everything other than the purely spiritual interest of the Church of God.

Referring to the spirit of union and self-sacrifice displayed by the French bishops and clergy, even to the renunciation of every temporal advantage, the writer says that "we firmly believe that their faith and devotion will call down the divine blessing, and that history will point to them as a grand example of sincere fidelity to the faith and of an age so self-centred and dedicated to material interests."

PRESENT CONDITION OF MARS.
"We perceive that during this time all the irregularities of the surface of Mars have been removed and it has become a smooth orb. We also learn that the greater part of its water has disappeared. But two prominent features still remain. Mars still shows evidence of vegetable life and psychic life. Considerable portions of its surface are occupied by dark areas which can only be interpreted as due to vegetation, and the whole planet is covered with a network of dark lines having dark spots at their intersections, which can only be interpreted as irregular stripes and large areas in the midst of a desert of ochre-colored sand. "The small amount of water on the planet is mostly precipitated in the form of snow or hoar frost about the poles during the respective winters of each hemisphere. These facts are shown in the table:

Geological Periods.	Years.	Hrs. Min.
Archean	15,000,000	4 20
Algonkian	18,000,000	4 20
Cambrian	6,000,000	1 30
Silurian	6,000,000	1 30
Devonian	6,000,000	1 30
Carboniferous	6,000,000	1 30
Triassic	3,000,000	45
Jurassic	3,000,000	45
Cretaceous	3,000,000	45
Tertiary	3,000,000	45
Psychologic	24,000,000	6

Total age of Mars 95,000,000 24 .. Probable future remnant of psychologic time on Mars .. 15 .. "Mars teaches us in the most unmistakable manner that the earth must follow in its footsteps; that its mountains must be worn down and its seas filled up until it shall become a smooth ball; that its waters and its atmosphere must be absorbed and become incorporated in its solid crust, though in this respect it will remain long at the stage at which we find Mars today, its first death following that of Mars by the same time distance as did its birth. "But there is a reverse to this sombre picture. The human race is supposed to have existed between 200,000 and 300,000 years—let us say one-quarter of its existence only about 10,000 years, and really alive as a psychic being less than 5,000 years. The most that it has accomplished of any value to itself has been done within 2,000 years, and its great work within 200 years. In a word, relatively speaking, man has only just begun to exist. His golden age, as Saint Simon said, is before him and not behind him."

A London cable says that the Evening Globe discussing Laurier and the coming conference says: "Excuse would willingly be made for Sir Wilfrid were Canada faced with any grave public crisis or any extraordinary pressure of political business, but the Dominion barometer has indicated 'set fair' for some time past and it will not pass unnoticed that the debate which first showed Sir Wilfrid's hand was not brought about by his own initiative." It says if there were any real possibility of Laurier being absent from the colonial conference it would go far to frustrate the whole purpose and potentialities of that gathering.

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