



The Evening Times



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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 1908.

EIGHT PAGES—ONE CENT.

CENTRAL COMMISSION HELD SHORT SESSION

No Evidence Taken This Morning but Commission Adjourned Until This Afternoon--F. B. Carvell's Request for Longer Adjournment Refused.



THE CENTRAL RAILWAY COMMISSION AND COUNSEL

In the above picture which was taken at Minto by the Telegraph staff photographer on Friday last, reading from left to right, the commissioners are Fulton McDougall, of Moncton; Judge Landry, president, and A. L. Teed, of St. Stephen. H. A. Powell, K.C., counsel to the commissioners, as standing behind the president.

The commissioners appointed by the provincial government to investigate certain matters connected with the Central Railway held their first meeting in St. John this morning in the Admiralty Court room, 105½ Building. No evidence was taken, however, and the session which lasted barely half an hour was occupied in hearing an application from F. B. Carvell, M. P., for a postponement in order that he might be present as representative for the New Brunswick Coal & Railway Co. The request was refused, but an adjournment was granted until 2 o'clock to permit M. G. Teed, K. C., who appeared for Mr. Carvell, to look into the act, and the evidence taken at Fredericton, so that he might appear in place of Mr. Carvell. His Honor Judge Landry presided over the other commissioners, A. L. Teed, of St. Stephen, and Fulton McDougall, of Moncton, were present along with H. A. Powell, counsel to the commissioners, while Mr. C. N. Skinner, K. C., E. C. Elkin, W. C. Heiner, manager of the road, and H. E. Fowler, accountant at Norton, were present as witnesses. His Honor Judge Landry, in opening the session, said this was virtually the first session of the commission, for while they had taken some evidence at Fredericton in private, the records of which were open to the public, and witnesses could be called, he desired, he represented by counsel. M. G. Teed, K. C., said he had received a telegram from F. B. Carvell, M. P., stating that he had been retained to represent the New Brunswick Coal & Railway Company, and as he was unable to be present, he wished him to be present. Mr. Teed suggested that an adjournment might be made until after the adjournment of parliament, which would probably be next week. Mr. Powell opposed an adjournment on the ground that if Mr. Carvell could not be present he could get good counsel in St. John, who could attend in his place. After a conference between the commissioners, His Honor announced that they felt that they could not accede to Mr. Carvell's request. It would be impossible to make adjournments for every lawyer who could not attend. There was a great deal of work to do, and they should get over it as soon as possible. The minutes of the meetings would be drawn by a stenographer and transcribed as quickly as possible, so that all the evidence would be available for Mr. Carvell or any one else interested as soon as possible. His Honor said he had also had a request from Hon. Mr. Pugsley asking for an adjournment until a later date, but he had replied he could not see his way clear to accede, and the minister had not pressed for an adjournment. Mr. Teed pressed for an adjournment at least until tomorrow morning so that he could confer with Mr. Carvell. Mr. Powell took strong objection to any delay. It looked very suspicious, he thought, to have such an application from Mr. Carvell and he thought it was not a bonafide request, but only for the purpose of delay. The N. B. Coal and Railway Company knew that the session was to be held on this date and there was no need of delay when there were plenty of lawyers just as good as Mr. Carvell, available. The commissioners decided not to accede to Mr. Carvell's request. A. P. Barnhill, K.C., announced that he had been retained to represent the late commissioners of the railway. He had decided in view of his connection with the road to take no part in the affair, but he had received a telegram from George McAvity asking him to act, and as he was evidently depended on him he would look after their interests. Mr. Powell said he could see no objection to Mr. Barnhill representing the late commissioners. Mr. Powell then called C. N. Skinner as the first witness but at this point Mr. Teed again arose and said that in view of their determination not to accede to Mr. Carvell's request, he felt that he should act in his stead and he requested an adjournment until 2 o'clock in order that he might look over the act, and the evidence taken at Fredericton. After a conference between the commissioners, His Honor announced that they felt that they could not accede to Mr. Carvell's request.

WANT PROHIBITION LAW FOR PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

I. O. G. T. Grand Lodge Passes Strong Resolution Calling Upon Government to Authorize a Plebiscite on the Question.

Moncton, N. B., July 8--(Special).--Deputy Minister of Railways Butler, accompanied by his family, passed through this morning to Chester, N. S., where they will spend some weeks. The election of officers and adoption of reports on the state of the order and political work occupied the closing session of the Grand Lodge I. O. G. T. here this morning. On a clause in the report of the committee on political action recommending the introduction by the provincial government of a prohibitory measure there was much discussion and also on that section advising the extension of political equality to women. The report was as follows:--"First--We recommend that this grand lodge endorse the action already taken by the Kent Northumberland district division of the Sons of Temperance that the question of provincial prohibition be before the next session of the legislature, submitted to a vote of the electorate with the distinct understanding that if the majority of those polling decided in favor of prohibition, the provincial government shall introduce at the next session of the legislature as a government measure an act to carry into effect the will of the people as expressed at the polls, said act to be along lines similar to that of the P. E. Island prohibition act. "Second--That no compromise measure be accepted. "Third--That as one of the best means of maintaining prohibition and otherwise uplifting and purifying the political and social life of the country we favor the extension of political equality to women. (Signed) Michael Kelly, J. Barry Allan, Ernest Bloodworth, Henry Harvey Stuart, Emma Killan." The report was finally adopted. The report on the state of the order showed that during the year the I. O. G. T.

ENORMOUS PROFITS IN THE DREDGING OF THIS HARBOR BY DOMINION DREDGING CO

Has the Federal Government Made the Company a Gift of a Dredge and \$88,000--Startling Figures Based on Statements Made by Dr. Pugsley and the St. John Globe.

Has the federal government made the Dominion Dredging Co. a gift of a dredge and \$88,000? This question is suggested by some calculations based upon statements made by the St. John Globe in May last, and other statements made in parliament last week by Hon. Dr. Pugsley. Ever since the Globe's article appeared, the Times has waited with much interest the supplementary statements which Dr. Pugsley has just made, and which make it possible to compare what the Dominion Dredging Co. paid out with what it has received. From the minister's statement it appears that the company received for ten months work in St. John harbor the sum of \$374,139.20. From statements made by the Globe and Dr. Pugsley it appears that the company's whole outlay, including the cost of the dredge, was \$286,875. If these figures are correct, the company not only got back the whole cost of the dredge, including duty and repairs, but received in addition \$87,264.20 in cash. There is of course no question about the amount of money received by the company for the ten months work. Dr. Pugsley states that it received \$340,805.20 for work at Rodney slip, and \$33,294 for work at the I. C. R. berth. This makes a total of \$374,139.20. To get at the company's outlay it is necessary first to learn the cost of the dredge. The cost is not stated, but the duty on dredges is 25 per cent, and Dr. Pugsley says the duty paid on the Dominion was \$26,575. This is 25 per cent of \$106,300, which should therefore be the cost of the dredge itself. Add the duty, and the total cost of the dredge landed at St. John is \$132,875. Now the Globe of May 2nd, in the article referred to, states that \$10,000 was spent on repairs on the dredge, while here, and that another \$4,000 or \$5,000 was then about to be spent. Add this \$15,000 and you have \$147,875, as the total cost of dredge and repairs. The only other expenditure would be the actual expenses of dredging, such as fuel, wages, food for the crew, cost of towing current repairs, etc. The Globe's article says this cost about \$14,000 per month, which is beyond question a very liberal estimate. For ten months, assuming she worked all the time, it would be \$140,000. Add this to \$147,875, the cost of the dredge and repairs, and the total expenditure by the company would be \$286,875, and they were paid \$374,139.20. Net profit in ten months one dredge in good condition and \$87,264.20. Put in tabulated form it would appear thus: Receipts \$374,139.20 Expenditure:-- Dredge \$147,875 Duty 26,575 Repairs 15,000 Operating exp. 140,000 286,875 Profit (besides gift of dredge) \$87,264.20 Put in another way, the Dominion Dredging Co., on an actual investment of \$132,875, made in ten months a net profit of \$219,159.20. The company's contract at Rodney slip was given without tender, at the same price at which G. S. Mayes had a dredging contract in that vicinity. The Times has no data on which to base a calculation of Mr. Mayes' profits, but one of his contracts was at 55 cents, compared with 90 cents paid to the Dominion Dredging Co. Mr. Mayes was able to remove 439,159 yards of material at 55 cents, which it must be assumed was not unprofitable. The question may fairly be asked why Mr. Mayes was given 90 cents for his second contract, and why the Dominion Dredging Company was given a large share of this work without tender at 90 cents. According to the statement submitted to parliament by Dr. Pugsley, Mr. Mayes removed 439,159 yards at 55c, and 239,243 yards at 90 cents, while the Dominion Dredging Co. removed 383,494 yards at 90 cents. Thus there was removed altogether 439,159 yards at 55 cents and 623,837 yards at 90 cents. If nearly half a million yards could be removed at 55 cents, why not the whole million yards? It will be noted that the calculations made are based, not on the statements of government opponents, but on those of Dr. Pugsley and the St. John Globe. Naturally the question arises--Why did not the government buy a dredge to do this work? In the spring of 1907 Mr. Emerson proposed this course and the money was voted for it. Why was the purchase not made? According to the figures as given by the Globe and Dr. Pugsley there has been a colossal waste of public money in this business.

HEIR TO \$9,000,000

Inmate of Ontario House of Refuge May Come in for Great Wealth. Chatham, Ont., July 8 (Special).--A story comes from the Kent County House of Refuge that Richard Depey, who was committed to the house in 1904, is heir to \$9,000,000. Depey, according to the story, backed by lawyers that Richard Depey, who was committed to the house in 1904, is heir to \$9,000,000. Depey, according to the story, backed by lawyers that Richard Depey, who was committed to the house in 1904, is heir to \$9,000,000.

BRODEUR'S TRIP WAS EXPENSIVE

He Spent Nearly \$8000 on His Last Visit to Europe. Ottawa, Ont., July 8--(Special).--Mr. Brodeur, in the house today, corrected the statement he made last night as to the cost of the Grand Trunk Pacific. In reporting the interest charges for seven years on the bonds guaranteed for the mountain section he figured on a rate of 3 per cent, whereas it should have been 3 1/2, making \$1,000,000 to be added to the total cost. Chairman Geffrin moved the adoption of the majority report of the committee which investigated the charges made by Major Hodgins of over classification on the National Transcontinental Railway. He held that the major had completely retracted his charges as made in the newspapers, and there was nothing more to investigate. Mr. Houghton Lennox moved an amendment that the report be not adopted, but the investigation be continued in order to demonstrate whether, as alleged, the people's money is being worse than wasted in the construction of the eastern division of the N. T. R. He pointed out that charge very much more serious than those of Major Hodgins were made to the government by the engineers of the G. T. Pacific Company. In the public accounts committee today Hon. Mr. Brodeur, minister of marine, told of his expenses to the colonial conference and to Paris in connection with the French treaty. He got an advance of \$2,000, and then used his own money, being reimbursed to the extent of \$2,800 in Paris and \$1,000 when coming home. He thus received \$3,800 in all and expended \$880. He was three months in London, where most of the hotel bills were paid by the Imperial government, and afterwards went to Paris and the Baltic. Before the agricultural committee of the commons, Mr. J. A. Ruddick, commissioner of agriculture and dairying, testified that the falling off in exports of cheese and butter was due to increased domestic consumption of these products.

RECEPTION TO PASTOR

There was a very pleasant gathering in the schoolroom of Centenary Methodist Church last evening when a reception was tendered to the new pastor, Rev. C. R. Flanders and family, by the members of the church and congregation. Addresses of welcome were delivered by Mayor Bullock, Rev. A. B. Cohen, president of the Evangelical Alliance; Rev. Samuel Howard, president of the New Brunswick and P. E. I. Methodist Conference; Fred R. Murray, superintendent of the Sunday School and G. Ernest Barbour on behalf of the trustees. Rev. Mr. Flanders addressed the gathering, thanking them for kind reception and in the course of his remarks referred to the Centenary Church as one of the finest church edifices from an architectural standpoint, that he had ever seen. Music was furnished by Miss Hea, Mrs. (Dr.) Crockett, Harry H. Brown, and others. Refreshments were served and a very pleasant social time was spent.

SELF DENIAL

First Chafeau--What's the matter with you lately? You ain't got no more nerve than a motorman. Second Chafeau--Oh, I cut out the bit-and-get away game during Lent.

THE TIMES NEW REPORTER

THE NOISE EXPLAINED. ANXIOUS ENQUIRER--The loud explosions heard at a late hour last night were made by another old cannon that wants to be dug up, mounted, and decreed in tourist literature as a "Loyalist Cannon." A SMALL TROUT. The break in the water main on the Tupper farm today was caused by a Loch Lomond trout, which got wedged in the pipe. This fact is stated for the special benefit of anglers. It was evidently a smaller trout than most of those

ALL THE SIGNS POINTING STRAIGHT TO MR. BRYAN

Little Short of a Miracle Can Prevent His Nomination by Democratic Convention at Denver--Predictions on Vice-Presidency all Conjecture.

Denver, July 8.--It will be difficult to say which of the four principal divisions of work before the Democratic National Convention which held its first session here yesterday, held first place in the interest of the delegates when they gathered early today for the second day's session, called to begin at noon. In the foreground, however, tangled with the other matters and in a way involving their outcome, was the work of the subcommittee on credentials, which sat all night to hear the arguments for and against those who from various states had come to contest the validity of the certification under which groups of delegates held their places on the temporary roll prepared by the National committee. The importance of the result of the night's work lies in the effect which the decision of the committee will have upon doubtful delegates or upon those whose action is controlled simply by specific instructions of the conventions which elected them and which might welcome a pretext for evading those instructions. It was an open secret last night and this morning that the elements opposed to the nomination of William J. Bryan for the presidency, based primarily on the Pennsylvania cases, might provoke a revolt among the delegates not too cordial in their acceptance of pro-Bryan instructions and sweep into the anti-Bryan camp sufficient to get them the one more than one-third of the convention to prevent Bryan's nomination. Failing that, it has all unanimously conceded that Bryan's nomination had become what may have never questioned, a certainty. The committee on resolutions and later the subcommittee to which the platform was finally referred, had a protracted meeting last night. The full committee remained in session until after 1 a.m., and heard arguments in favor of many proposed planks, then it adjourned until 5 p.m. today, leaving the subcommittee to wrestle with the platform in detail. The feature of the subcommittee meeting was the reading by Governor Haskell, of Oklahoma, chairman of the full committee for more than an hour, of suggestions received from Mr. Bryan as to planks on various subjects which he desired the committee to embody in the platform or at least to consider. Final adjournment of the convention Thursday, of which there had been a faint prospect, has been rendered unlikely by the postponement of the report of the platform committee, to say nothing of the probability of extended discussion on the Convention floor today on the report of the Credentials Committee. There is no telling what the day will bring forth. While it is the general belief that Mr. Bryan will head the ticket and that only an extraordinary and sensational change of sentiment in the convention, can prevent his nomination on the first ballot, all predictions on the subject of the vice-presidency must be mere conjectures. There is a large number of candidates in eight, Gray of Delaware, Mitchell of Illinois, Kern of Indiana, Towns and Harrison of New York, Howell of Georgia, and a host of others.

NEWS FROM FREDERICTON

Divorce Court Judgements Will Come Tomorrow--York County Council.

Fredericton, N. B., July 8 (Special).--The divorce court met again this morning pursuant to adjournment, but did not transact any business. On account of Mr. Powell being engaged at St. John, hearing in the case of Whitlock vs. Whitlock, was postponed for a fortnight.

HOUSE CANNOT TAKE IT UP NOW

The harbor commission act will have to hang over for some time according to a message received this morning by Mayor Bullock from the minister of public works. Following is a copy of the telegram: Ottawa, Ont., July 7. Mayor Bullock, St. John. Harbor Commission Bill recalled yesterday. Prime Minister says too late to consider this session as prorogation hoped for week from Saturday. PUGSLEY. Mayor Bullock while expressing regret that the matter could not be put through this session of the house said the delay was not at this end as the aldermen had done all they could to facilitate matters. He thought the committee might open up negotiations with the C. P. R. for securing the 1600 foot strip south of Protection street so that the dredging could be commenced there. They should urge the government to continue the dredging at any rate and while the dimension scheme might be held up now, we believed it must come soon.

MONTEAL STOCKS

Montreal, July 8 (Special).--Dom. Steel declined today, common to 34 and 24 1/2 on pressure of the banks for settlement of both coal trouble. Other features were Pacific, 151; Detroit, 29 1/2; Rio, 4 1/4; Soo, 11 1/2; Coal, 5 1/2; Mexico, 5 1/2.

THE CENTENNIAL SCHOOL PLAYGROUND IS OPEN NOW

Supervised Playground Which Opened on Monday Has Already Proven a Huge Success--Happy Children Find Ideal Play Spot.

Monday brought joy to the hearts of hundreds of St. John children, for it was the opening of the supervised playground, and during the extremely warm weather the little ones are having a delightful recreation instead of having play on the sweltering streets and pavements. The need for such a place was firmly impressed upon a Times man yesterday when he paid a visit to the Centennial grounds and saw 500 children, whose ages ranged from five to twelve or thirteen years, having the time of their lives. If the attendance was large last year, this year it is doubly so, for every form of amusement seemed to be working overtime, and Miss Peters, when the parents must think for organizing, working out and completing the scheme, must feel repaid for her efforts. The following is the staff: Miss Miller, supervisor; Miss Baskin, assistant supervisor; Miss Fowles, art teacher, and Thomas Hill, caretaker. When the gates at the Richmond street entrance were thrown open Monday morning at ten o'clock the big crowd of little ones who almost choked the streets, streamed through with shouts of joy for the hour for which they had been looking had arrived, and now for weeks they were to have a jolly good time. The attendance in the morning has been from 300 to 350, but has been swollen to 500 during the afternoon. Miss Miller kindly showed the Times man about. "Shout the chutes" was the first stop, and here the little people were putting each other in good natured rivalry for a chance to have a slide on

THE WEATHER. Southwest winds and very warm, local thunderstorms tonight Thursday, westerly winds, fair and cooler.