

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 32 Prince William street, St. John, N. B., Canada.

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Managing Editor.

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS
By Carrier \$5.00
By Mail 2.00
Semi-Weekly, by mail 1.00
Invariably in advance.
Advertising rates on application.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, JULY 27, 1914.

THE POLICE FORCE.

It is to be hoped that whatever feeling has been aroused during the past week in favor of a complete reorganization of the police department will not be permitted to lapse before some real improvement has been wrought. There is no doubt that the City of St. John, during the past five years, has seen considerable growth, but it is regrettable to say that the police force has not grown with it. That department is not as strong or as efficient now as it was five years ago, and this is a condition which should not be permitted to continue.

Possibly there may be those who will declare that it is unwise for a newspaper to point to deficiencies in the department of the city's service to which is entrusted the preservation of law and order and the protection of life and property. Such people may say that it is poor advertising for the city, but the truth can never be poor advertising. The great majority of the people of St. John know that the police department is disorganized and numerically unequal to the tasks confronting it.

There will be no disposition to find fault with the officers or men constituting the force as it is at present. The difficulty is there is not enough of them. What St. John requires, and what the citizens should be prepared to spend money to obtain, is a force of from 75 to 85 men and a plain clothes department of at least half a dozen. Then, added to a police work should be established a police alarm system, and up-to-date patrol such as other cities of this possess.

Also, provision should be made for providing pensions to the men who have been, say, twenty-five years in the city employ. A young man upon joining the force should feel that faithful service will be rewarded. The pension system for employees of any corporation, public or private, has passed the experimental stage. Where it has been tried it has been found that it makes the service more attractive to men of a class who without it would not be likely to turn their thoughts to police duty.

The most important thing to be done at once, however, is to increase the number of men and when that change is made introduce the eight hour system of duty patrols. As it stands at present, police officers on the morning work from 7 o'clock in the morning until the same hour at night with one hour for dinner. Night men going on at 7 p. m., leave at 5.30 in the morning and from that hour until 7, when the day shift arrives, the city is without protection. With three shifts of eight hours each the city would never be without police service.

Commissioner McLellan has had control of the police department since his election to city hall, and in all fairness it must be said that he has worked well under much difficulty. He has not received from the people, or from his conferees in city hall, the financial or moral support required to produce the best results. In view of recent happenings it is necessary that such support should be accorded to him and all others connected with police administration. This is a matter which calls for attention at once. The citizens have had an experience with a force unequal to its duties and a second lesson should not be needed to awaken them to the sense of what is necessary. No matter what means must be used to bring it about improvements in the police department are imperative. A continuance of present conditions is not fair to the people who pay for protection, or to Commissioner McLellan, Chief of Police, or the officers and men of the department who are doing their best with the means at their disposal to provide it.

MORE DISTORTION.

The Telegraph, unfair as ever, in its handling on Saturday morning of the events before the Royal Commission, in which Mr. J. B. M. Baxter and Mr. F. B. Carvell figured, attempts to make it appear that Mr. Baxter used objectionable language to Mr. Carvell and received a "hot rejoinder." In its headlines the Telegraph says Mr. Baxter "abused Mr. Carvell and got a hot rejoinder." In the article under the heading the Telegraph, while its account is not verbatim, credits Mr. Carvell with using the words "cur and coward" before Mr. Baxter replied that he "did not come as a thief." Thus it will be seen, from the Telegraph's own account, that the blusterer from Carleton County was the first to inject into the proceedings the objectionable words. The incident merely serves to afford another proof that the events of the day's news do not bear out the partisan attitude with which the Telegraph seeks to treat them. The report shows that Mr. Carvell was the first to break the

rules of professional courtesy, while the heading seeks to place this responsibility upon the shoulders of Mr. Baxter.

Fortunately the public now has a better opportunity than ever to judge of the merits of the two men, and they can see that frantic language of Mr. Carvell is but the Telegraph's way of bolstering up a losing game. It is all very well to attempt to garb Mr. Carvell with the vestments of a hero, but the fact remains that his conduct throughout the whole enquiry has been most violently partisan and unfair. In the words of an old adage it is impossible to make "a silk purse out of a sow's ear."

TRIBUTE TO MR. BAXTER.

Commenting upon the settlement of the Street Railway strike the Frederickton Gazette pays the following well-merited tribute to Mr. J. B. M. Baxter:

"The citizens of St. John unquestionably owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Baxter for his prompt and praiseworthy action in jumping into the breach between the Street Railway Co. and its employees, and bringing about a satisfactory settlement of the dispute. It was a characteristic action of a public minded man, and the outcome of his efforts speaks volumes for the confidence with which he is regarded by all ranks of his fellow citizens."

"Mr. Baxter has attained his present position in the public life of the province by his own unaided efforts. In his own words, he has earned his living by methods of hard work, honesty and thrift, and he naturally therefore has a sympathetic feeling for all other men of thrift, no matter what particular form their work may take. During the last session of the Legislature, he repeatedly gave evidence of this sympathetic feeling when the Workmen's Compensation Act was under consideration. Mr. Baxter's efforts to promote a settlement of the trouble were not rendered any easier by the disgraceful occurrences of Thursday night, occurrences which unquestionably alienated public sympathy from the cause of the men; and the misguided element that took upon themselves to wantonly destroy private property did this cause incalculable harm."

"In view of all that has taken place, in order to arrive at a satisfactory settlement between the parties, there has actually had to be a good deal of 'give and take,' and to adjust the differences has doubtless indeed required considerable diplomacy; and Mr. Baxter is to be cordially congratulated both upon the tact with which he handled the matter and brought about a settlement, and the confidence which both parties to the dispute had in the motives which prompted him to interest himself in it."

CARVELL EXCELS HIMSELF.

(Frederickton Gleaner, Saturday). As an advocate, Mr. F. B. Carvell has attained an unenviable notoriety for the domineering and bullying attitude which he invariably adopts when matters do not go along quite as he would like them to do. It is doubtful if he really ever knew how to conduct himself as a gentleman should; but if he ever did possess any such knowledge, he seldom shows any desire to put it into actual practice. Frequently during the hearing of the Dugal charges he has conducted himself in a manner that is disgraceful to the honorable profession to which he belongs; but he seems to have put all his previous efforts hopelessly into the shade yesterday afternoon in his encounter with Mr. Baxter, K. C.

Mr. Carvell is getting somewhat peevish; matters in connection with the charges are not panning out altogether to his liking. He is finding that it is one thing to launch serious charges against public men and quite another to prove them when called to account. His loud-mouthed declamations are for the gallery, but he does not lack their soundness questioned. He is very "touchy" also at the least suggestion of armories or contracts for railway sleepers and several other little things. All of which matters go to show that he has not that control over himself, nor the capacity for conducting a legal enquiry in a fair and gentlemanly manner that the successful and popular advocate should have.

In the course of his conduct of the promoters' case in the Dugal charges, Mr. Carvell has gone out of his way to make some most unwarranted reflections upon Mr. Baxter, whose name has been dragged into the matter. No public man could possibly permit such statements and innuendoes as Mr. Carvell has made regarding Mr. Baxter to pass unchallenged; and when the latter demanded of the Royal Commission the opportunity to show these statements to be maliciously false, he took the only course open to him. Because he took it, Mr. Carvell brands him as a "coward and a cur."

In the opinion of right-thinking men, the coward and the cur is the man who, for the sake of gratifying his personal animosity, willfully goes out of his way to slander his neighbor as Mr. Carvell did, rather than the man who promptly takes steps to defend his honor. Mr. Baxter's record as a citizen and a public man is unimpeached, and no suggestion of suspicion has ever attached itself to his name in regard to matters pertaining either to his public or private life; and although the general public will feel that in view of Mr. Carvell's well known and generally recognized reputation for reckless misrepresentation, it is quite unnecessary for Mr. Baxter to publicly refute his statements, which carry the proofs of their absurdity on their faces, they will nevertheless feel that he has taken the only course which was open to him as a public man under the circumstances.

Diary of Events

HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA

Fifty-five years ago today Governor Douglas, of Vancouver Island, sent a force of troops to San Juan Island. The possession of this little island, on account of its strategic position commanding the straits, had become a bone of contention between Great Britain and the United States. This led to disputes between the two countries, owing to the doubtful interpretation of the treaty of Washington respecting the boundaries. Early in July, 1859, Gen. Harney, with a small force of American troops, occupied the island to protect the American settlers. The American commander was given to rashness, and might have precipitated a war, except for the moderation practiced by the English. Although the latter had a naval force at hand, Gov. Douglas contented himself with sending a small body of troops to the island. The following November Gen. Harney was superseded in command at San Juan by Gen. Winfield Scott, who was again called upon to play the part of pacifier in boundary disputes between British America and his country. He made conciliatory overtures, and Gov. Douglas met him half way, with the result that a temporary settlement was patched up. This continued until 1872, when the question of ownership of the island submitted to the Emperor of Germany, who handed down a decision in favor of the United States. Gen. Winfield Scott had previously acted as a mediator in a boundary dispute between New Brunswick and Maine, and when the two countries were on the verge of war, arranged a compromise with Sir John Harvey, Governor of New Brunswick, by which there was a joint occupation of the disputed territory until the matter was settled by arbitration.

THE PASSING DAY.

WORLD'S GREATEST BANK Employees of the Bank of England will enjoy a holiday today, for this is the 21st birthday of the world's greatest banking institution. "The Old Lady of Threadneedle street," as the famous old bank is properly called, was founded by John Wulfe in 1694 and was incorporated July 27, 1694. It was constituted as a joint stock association, with a capital of \$6,000,000. In return for the loan of its entire capital to the government, it received the right to issue notes and a monopoly of corporate banking in England. It was not until early in the nineteenth century that this monopoly was broken down. In its early days the Bank of England was a servant to the government; and in a lesser or greater degree it has enjoyed this character through all the stages of its subsequent history. At first the charter of the bank was for eleven years only; but in consequence of the great services of the institution to the government, its charter has been at various times renewed. Everyone knows that the Bank of England possesses many privileges, such as issuing bank notes and acting as the agent of the government in the matter of the national debt. But few are aware that it has the power of selling beer without a license. This privilege was allowed the bank by charter of incorporation under the Great Seal, dated July 27, 1694, and the bank, if it liked, could open a public house in Threadneedle street, or could send its drays around and deliver its beer. What is a Bank of England beer would have with the chief cashier's signature on the label of each bottle as guarantee.

"THE DAY OF THE SEVEN SLEEPERS"

The festival of the Seven Sleepers, which will be celebrated today in many countries, was introduced into the Christian church at a very early period. The legend on which it is founded, relates that the Emperor Decius, in the year 250, having set up a statue in the city of Ephesus, commanded all the inhabitants to worship it. Seven young men, disobeying this mandate, and being unambitious of the honor of martyrdom, fled to Mount Coelius, where they concealed themselves in a cavern. Decius, enraged, caused all the caves in the city to be closed up, and nothing was heard of the fugitives till the year 475, when a person, digging foundations for a stable, broke up the cavern, and discovered them. Disturbed by the unwelcome noise, the young men, who had been asleep all the time, awoke, feeling very old, and, thinking they had slept but one night, they dispatched one of their number into Ephesus to learn the news, and purchase some provisions. The antiquity of the coin proffered by the messenger at a baker's shop attracted suspicion, and the notice of the authorities. After an investigation, the seven sleepers were accompanied by a dog, named Kratin. This animal, after its long sleep, becoming a great prophet and philosopher, has been admitted into the Mussulman's paradise, where it is beside the ass of Balaam. The other eight animals that enjoy this high privilege, are the ant of Solomon, the whale of Jonah, the raven of Isaac, the cuckoo of Belshazzar, the ox of Moses, and the mare of Mohammed.

RAILWAY WORKERS' CHAMPION IN ENGLAND COMING TO CANADA

London, July 25.—H. W. Thomas, M. P., well known as a railway workers' champion, sailed on the Albatross yesterday for a month's tour of Canada. His trip is ostensibly a pleasure one, but there are good reasons to state that he will collect information from Canadian railway authorities likely to be interesting to the commission on railways which has been appointed. On the same vessel are thirty teachers drawn from all over England, who will spend a month inspecting the schools and studying phases of school life in Canada. The party is conducted by F. W. Goldsmith, M. P. They will visit the chief Canadian cities.

Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

My Sixth Gladdis was tawing wile we was eating supper last nite, and pop sed, By the way, speaking of dancing, do you no how to do the clock tango.
Now, how, sed Gladdis.
You start at the jewelry store and wind up awn the mantelpiece, sed pop.
O, I noo it wood be something like that sed Gladdis.
I didnt want to disappoint you, sed pop, but seriously speaking, have you herd of the Miziko Sity hesertayship.
No, and there is no such thing, eethir, sed Gladdis.
Yes, there is, to, sed pop, its a series of revererioshoss and you start ee ch wun before the last wun is ovir.
Farthir, will you stop, sed Gladdis.
Willwum, behave, sed ma.
Wy, wat sm I doin, sed pop, the undirtakers bullfrog maxicks is a good dance, do you want to heer how to do it.
No, sed Gladdis.
Then ill tell you, sed pop, you take three hops and croak.
Posertively, if I wasnt eeting supper, Id go out of the room and leave you to yure misery sed Gladdis.
There, you see wat slaves we are to our stummocks, sed pop. The hydraplane one step is a nice littel thing you jest keep awn dipping and look out for the splash.
Now I hope that's awl, sed ma.
Thats awl except the bannaner skin waltz, sed pop.
Well, wats that for, mersey sakes, get it out of yure system, sed ma.
You jest alide, sed pop.
Vell, wats that awl that awl sed Gladdis.
Its awl except the Brazil nut Argentine, sed pop.
Now Willwum, I ask you as a favor to keep that wun and the rest of them to yureself, this is reely getting on my nerves, sed ma.
Not to speak of mine, sed Gladdis.
Awl rite, sed pop, in deference to the ladsy, I desist.
And he didnt say wat the Brazil nut Argentine was, but I asked him wat it was aftir supper, and he sed, Its danced at the military ball, the kaptains wife dnt it with the kernel.

REV. J. C. BERRIE IN CENTENARY

Large congregation listens with close attention to powerful address—An excellent sermon.

Rev. J. C. Berrie preached in Centenary church, both in the morning and evening. The text for the evening sermon was taken from John 14: XVII. Rev. Mr. Berrie said in part:

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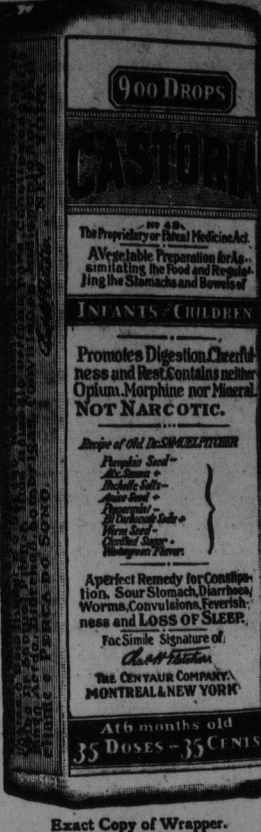
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