

TAXPAYERS GROANING.

A NEED OF MORE EARNST CIVIC EFFORT IN HALIFAX.

Other Matters of Interest in the Sister City—Money Wanted For the Sailors' Home—The Victoria Hospital and its Rates for Private Patients.

HALIFAX, Feb. 6.—The report of the committee on salaries of civic officials as everybody knows received an ignominious hoist in the city council some weeks ago. A new committee was appointed, in the hope that new men, with new ideas, would be able to evolve a scheme more practicable and which might prove more acceptable to the alderman's sense of what was judicious and right. The members of that old committee were so disgusted with the wire-pulling, and time-serving and self-seeking encountered that they washed their hands of the business and resolved never more to attempt "reforms" of that kind. Yet their failures did not discourage six other aldermen from allowing themselves to be nominated as a new committee on salaries. The list begins with Alderman Geldert who is a hard-working civic representative from ward 1. His colleague from that ward, Alderman Musgrave is now understood to have been anxious to obtain a place on the committee, but this desire was not known when the committee was struck, and perhaps it is just as well it was not, for Alderman Musgrave is not a city father who devotes much time to the affairs of the city corporation, though who can say that he does not spend many hours in secret thought upon the condition of civic affairs. Alderman Geldert, therefore, is the man of the hour on the salaries committee from ward 1.

Alderman W. J. Butler is the representative from ward 1. He is in earnest in his desire to effect reforms and to secure from the civic officials the biggest return possible for liberal salaries, wrung from the pockets of the people. Alderman Butler will doubtless bring his business knowledge and sagacity to bear on this question with good effect.

Alderman Mitchell is the member of the committee from ward 3. The public hope to see the alderman's sound, practical, level-headed common sense brought to bear on the subject to be considered, and they may safely depend upon it there will be no disappointment so far as he is concerned.

A better man than Alderman Hubley of ward 4, could not have been selected if economy is to be the objective point aimed at by the committee. "Economy" is Alderman Hubley's watchword by night and by day, sleeping and waking, in the council and out of it, whether he happens to be in the majority or minority; economy and Alderman Hubley are inseparable as were the Siamese twins. Let him get to work once more now.

What will Alderman Eden from ward 4, and Alderman Outhit from ward 6 do? Not very much of their past achievements in the arena of civil politics are to be considered. But let this be their chance. Representatives of wards 5 and 6 on this committee now or never more than justify the best expectations that have been formed of you. There is much to be done by you; much that can be done on this salaries committee, if you will only faithfully try. The taxpayers of Halifax are groaning under burdens present and prospective. Do your best, like true civic fathers to reorganize, reform and improve the clerical staff at the city hall. Past shortcomings on your part will be forgiven if you do this! Six men of the salaries committee, bestir your selves, and earn the heartfelt thanks of the community!

The directors of the Halifax Sailors Home are in dire distress for money. For several years past there has been the same sad story of deficit after deficit. Last year the gross shortage in income over expenditure was \$1,100, and during nine years the floating debt on current account has grown to the appalling figures of \$7,000. The home has a building which cost \$30,000, half of which has been paid for, the remaining \$15,000 being covered by mortgage. The Sailors home is one of our most useful philanthropies, and it is regrettable that it is not in a more flourishing financial condition. The reason for its poverty does not lie with those who have the home in charge, nor with the home itself. With such men as James Morrow, Samuel M. Brockfield and George S. Campbell actively at work on its directorate and with a faithful man like George Graydon as manager, the home should succeed. The number of sailors coming to this port is as great as ever, but they come in steamers and there is not the long wait that there used to be in the days of sailing vessels. Nevertheless the Home is an essential to a seaport like Halifax, especially in summer when they are so many men from the Royal Navy on our streets. The Sailor's Home does a vast amount of good and the benevolent people of Halifax may be depended upon, when they come really to see its needs, to put their hands in their pockets and rescue it from its present perilous position. An appeal is shortly to be issued for assistance. Besides this a "Grand national fair" is talked of for next summer.

PROGRESS last week drew attention to the desire that in the Hospital at St. John, private patients should be allowed to have their own physicians if they so wished, rather than be confined to the hospital staff.

This is a privilege which was granted to private patients at the Victoria General hospital in this city, but only on terms which make it practically useless. A patient who comes into the hospital and pays \$9 per week for board may be waited upon by his own physician but not otherwise. Some time ago the tariff was \$7 but the authorities raised it to \$9.

The Victoria hospital is an institution in which the people of this province have a commendable pride great, though occasionally there are peculiar developments. The case of the young woman brought in with a diseased face, and who after two months in the hospital, so greatly surprised the physician in attendance, is a case in point.

In order that the great pressure on its accommodation may to a certain extent be relieved the provincial legislature is considering the possibility of subsidizing local institutions throughout the province, such as Rev. W. C. Wilson's cottage hospital at Springhill, etc., only such cases would then be sent to Halifax as could not be dealt with at those local institutions.

THE PAIN IMMEDIATELY LEFT ME.

So Says Mrs. W. T. Rundle, of Dundalk, After Using Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart.

How difficult it is for those afflicted with heart disease to get relief, and to get it quickly. The pain hangs on, and is suggestive of the most terrible results, for heart disease cannot be trifled with. Here was Mrs. W. T. Rundle, the wife of a well known cattle dealer in Dundalk, who suffered severely from pains in the region of the heart that, to quote her own words: "I was for some time unable to attend to my household duties. I was induced to try Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart, and I must say the result was wonderful. The pain immediately left me after the first day, and I have had no trouble since."

Strong testimony, and yet Mrs. Rundle stands along with thousands of others who can say the same thing.—Sold by H. Dick and D. McDiarmid.

Natural Resentment. "Little boy," asked the sympathizing lady, "why do you cry so?" "Is there anything in the manner of my expressing my grief, madam," responded the Boston boy, "that strikes you as being out of or inappropriate? Boohoo! Boohoo!"

She had to be turned in Bed With Heels "My wife," says Mr. Thomas Crosbie, of Lisle, Ont., "was laid up with rheumatism for months, and for two weeks the pain was so intense that she had to be turned in bed with her heels. I saw an advertisement in the Alliston, Ont. Herald, saying that 'South American Rheumatic Cure' would give relief in fifteen minutes, and quickly cured. I at once took the trial for that place, and secured one-half dozen bottles from Mr. J. R. Hipwell, druggist. My wife began the use of it, and in 24 hours she was out of bed, and has not been troubled with rheumatism since. This remedy is a wonder worker, and I believe will prove a great blessing to anyone suffering from rheumatism." Sold by H. Dick and S. McDiarmid.

A stick of timber 119 feet long and 22 inches square, without a knot or blemish, was cut in a mill at Hequiam, Wash., last week. It is the longest piece of timber ever cut in that neighborhood, and the most nearly perfect any of the old lumbermen there has ever seen.

Onion juice is said to be very effective in promoting the growth of the hair. The winter is so mild in France this year that daisies are already blooming in the Parisian parks.

"77" GRIP

Look out for Grip! All the Weather Conditions favor the Disease.

Look out for the Grip. The weather conditions proceeding an attack of the Grip have invariably been the present conditions and the thing to do is to be on the safe side. Be careful and don't catch cold. If you do catch cold take care of it at once. GRIP SYMPTOMS. Sense of illness, Pain or Soreness in the Head, Back, Chest, Side or Limbs; or Cough, Sore throat, Catarrh, Influenza, Protrusion flowing from the Nose or Eyes, Itching, and Redness of the Eyelids, General Prostration and Fever. Sometimes one, and again another symptom is more prominent. The appetite impaired and the nervous system unstrung, depressed and run down.

"77" breaks up a cold that has gone on. "77" meets the epidemic condition and is the cure for all its manifestations. Taken early, cuts it short promptly.

Small bottle of pleasant pellets—fit your vest pocket; sold by druggists, or sent upon receipt of price, 25c. in U.S. for \$1.00. Humphreys' Medicine Co., 111 & 113 William St., New York.

HUMPHREYS' WITCH HAZEL OIL "THE PILE OINTMENT." For Piles—External or Internal, Blind or Bleeding; Itching or Burning; or Hemorrhoids. The relief is immediate—the cure certain. PRICE, 50 CENTS. TRIAL SIZE, 25 CENTS. Sold by Druggists, or sent post-paid on receipt of price. HUMPHREYS' MED. CO., 111 & 113 William St., NEW YORK.

DON'T LIKE THE LEAGUE.

CHARLOTTETOWN CITIZENS AND THE SCOTT ACT.

The Methods of Some of the Reformers Are Scored by a Correspondent—The Way Taken to Secure Convictions is Not Looked Upon With Favor.

To THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS: The temperance workers in Charlottetown, can lay claim to enthusiasm in their work. They never go at it half heartedly, they undertake it in all earnestness, and if in the carrying out of their projects they sometimes go to extremes it need not be wondered at. But alas! the zeal does not always last. It is too often like the effervescence of the soda, from a soda water bottle: it pops over in the extreme anxiety to get vent at first, fizzles for awhile and then falls flat.

Charlottetown is again a Scott Act town. Just at present its temperance people have much cause to thankfulness in the numerous summonses served upon, and the many convictions obtained against the noble army of rum-sellers. But it seems as if the most extreme lovers of the Scott Act, must find that there is something amiss with that praiseworthy law, for it does not seem to be all plain sailing to enforce it.

Therefore, to emphasize matters and to compel the rum-sellers to stop his "mercenary business" as the good, charitable temperance people call it they accordingly put their worthy and fertile brains together consider the matter over and the outcome of it all was the establishing of a new society in our midst.

This society rejoices in the name of the "Citizens' League" its object is to further the cause of temperance,—and the proscriber in his arduous work and finally to rid the rum-seller off the face of the earth. Beginning at Charlottetown all the citizens who are "right minded" (and any one who does not hold the views of the League is wrong minded) belong to it, it is supposed to number members of all classes and conditions of men even to the former rum-seller who after having made his pile saw the error of his ways and now is the loudest in his condemnation of it.

The League was organized with a public meeting in the Opera House and with a band discoursing sweet music outside in order to attract the attention of any one who mayhap might not have heard of the laudable undertaking that was being entered upon that night.

The first night's meeting was a great success. But on the second meeting a short time ago the "fizz" of the society's members was about at an end and while they resolved at the first meeting to do such great things themselves, at the second they concluded they would pay some one else to do it and now the right minded men (if they still remain) will be left to follow the precedent of a Rev. member and strike their name off the roll of membership.

For the second meeting proved, conclusively that it was being made a political affair and in addition to that a resolution was passed to offer a reward of five dollars to any person giving such information as would lead to the conviction of any party selling liquor, the reformer's name to be kept secret and the money to be paid when conviction was obtained.

This is certainly a unique feature in the many ways of furthering the temperance cause and what makes it still more so is the fact that one of its prime instigators, is a man, who, twenty-five years ago, sold more liquor than any one else in the city and who at the present time is said to owe a bill of \$140 to a liquor dealer for liquor supplied him a short time ago for electioneering purposes. "Consistency thou art a jewel." Here is a man toadying to the temperance party and condemning liquor selling in the highest terms whose own hands are hardly free of the very business he is condemning. But he fondly imagines that no one remembers that fact.

More than that, the very thing he is trying to put down, he buys in large quantities, it may be does not pay for and then distributes through the country to bribe people for their votes or else to please a certain class of men who look for and always receive "treats" galore during election time. He speaks of the "methods" of the business. He surely ought to know them pretty well and be up to all the tricks of the trade and therefore to change the old adage to "it takes a rum-seller to catch a rum-seller," he doubtless thinks he is an invaluable addition to the League, other members of it deserve special mention which there is no space for here; they will get it in their turn. But if the League wants to do good why does it not employ fair means?

That "five dollars" will be productive of more harm than enough. The men who would be small enough for the sake of five dollars, to obtain the information the League wants are the very men who would borrow ten cents for a drink, inform on the man who sold it and then take the "League's" five dollars and have a good spree on the temperance people's money.

The Scott Act is being made a perfect god of by many temperance people in Charlottetown, it makes no difference what a man might be; he may be a base broken down rone, a man whom women should refuse admittance to respectable houses but if he talks up and works for the "Scott Act" the temperance women canvass for

him and will bear nothing against him. He may be a man who believes in neither heaven or hell, but if he believes in the "Scott Act" it seems to be all the religion required.

The temperance people persistently refuse to license what they call an evil but at the same time compel the vendors to pay for the privilege of being vendors.

They run down liquor in every shape and form but when some of them want it themselves for sickness or as a tonic they get some bitters, or like things from the druggist, put them in it and fondly imagine they are taking "only medicine."

If the league members would only have the courage of their convictions, come out boldly and say they will work in every possible way to further the cause they pretend to champion, people would respect them for being brave enough to do so. But they do not want to do the "dirty work" such as sneak around places and act as informers so they are willing to pay men to take that part of it in hand, and there is going to be some pretty dirty work done before the "Scott Act" is tried for another term; either a recognized license law, or strict Prohibition is what is wanted. While the Government profits by the revenue derived from the importation of liquor that liquor will be sold by fair means or foul and all the "Citizens League" in the world even with superannuated rum-sellers at the head of them are not going to prevent it.

Out with the temperance cranks, some of whom sneak in the back doors of the very places they are trying to close. Out with those who dictate to others tell; them they are committing a sin if they drink a glass of liquor while they themselves sit by their own fireside and enjoy their own glass of hot toddy these winter nights. Out with those men or women who have satiated themselves with the evil and dare not touch it. Let people who hold temperance principles from convictions take matters in hand. Let their lives show that they practice what they preach let them advocate "Prohibition;" not "Scott Act" and then there will really be a step taken on the right road.

Then when Prohibition waves its banner over us maybe the league will find decent respectable work to do in the enforcing of a decent respectable law. In the meantime it had better relegate itself back to the ashes of the dead and gone rum-sellers from which but few of them can deny it has arisen.

CONSISTENCY. Charlottetown, P. E. I., Feb. 4.

The art of printing is covered by 5,833 patents, either of machines or special devices employed in the work.

About one-third of the butter imported into Great Britain last year came from Denmark.

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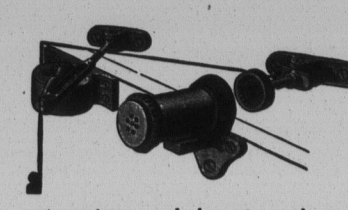
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Our revised terms give excellent opportunities for those who can spare time for the combined courses. Send for Catalogue giving terms &c. S. KERR & SON, Odd Fellow's Hall, St. John Business College.

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We pay highest prices for old Postage Stamps used before 1870. From \$1 to \$100 paid for single extra rare specimens. It will pay you to look up your old letters. Remittances first mail after receipt of stamps. A. F. HANSMAN & CO., 18 Leader Toronto, Canada.

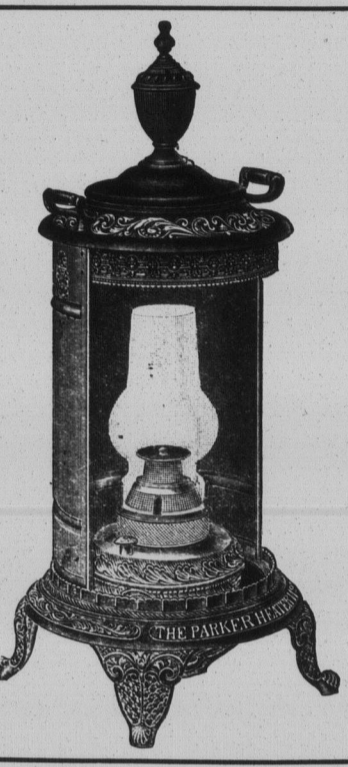
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by careless people and doors that slam are alike annoying. A desirable device for closing doors without noise, and keeping them closed, is the ECLIPSE CHECK AND SPRING. The sample we have shows that it is simple and durable. Come in and see it.

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P. S. We have just received another lot of Diamond Skate sharpeners so popular with the boys at this season. Price 25c.

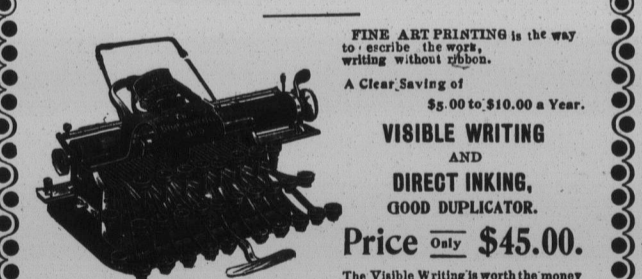
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