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NEWCASTLE N. B., FEBRUARY 7, 1911

TOWN COUNCIL

(Continued from page 1)

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Re Property

Qualification

The abolition of Income and Property Qualifications for offices of Mayor and Alderman and also of County Councillor was then discussed. [The abolition of all such requirements was one of the planks in Ald. Stuart's platform for the last three elections, and application for legislation to remove property qualification for office of Alderman was moved in last year's council by Ald. Butler, who stood alone in its support.]

Ald. Stuart moved, seconded by Ald. Butler the following:

1. That this Town Council request the government of New Brunswick and the Legislature to introduce and pass at the next session of the latter an act to amend the Towns Incorporation Act as to empower.

(A) The town of Newcastle, upon a majority vote of its town council or upon a majority vote of its qualified ratepayers voting either at a regular town election or at a special time set apart for such voting, to reduce or abolish within its jurisdiction Income and Property Qualifications, or either of them, for candidates for the offices of Mayor and Alderman;

(B) Any County, City or Town in the Province, upon a majority vote of its qualified ratepayers, voting at a regular municipal election or at a special time set apart for such voting, to reduce or abolish within its jurisdiction Income and Property Qualifications, or either of them, for voters and for candidates for the offices of County Councillor or Mayor and Alderman.

2.—That this town council request the co-operation of the union of N. B. municipalities and of the councils of all the municipalities of the province in pressing the aforementioned legislation upon the local government and legislature.

ALD. KETHRO

Ald. Kethro thought that the motion was absurd. If people wanted respectable men to devote their attention to the town, they wanted men with some stake in the country, not men that might put the town in debt and then fly away.

ALD. BUTLER

Ald. Butler said he would like to know what acre in town was worth as much as one citizen. We were making men. One man with manhood in him was worth more than a hundred lots of land with money in the bank. The question was, shall men speak or shall ground speak? Let men speak! Let boys that work, study and think, speak! If one gives his energy to the public he is no good in the town just because he has no land? When men speak they would have a country—not till then.

ALD. STABLES

Ald. Stables said it would be a nice country without property qualifications. People with property—not Tom, Dick or Harry—should run the town.

ALD. BUTLER

Ald. Butler asked Ald. Stables of what value his (Stables') pro-

erty would be if it were not for men. If there were no men property could not be accumulated—nothing could be done.

MAYOR PEDOLIN

The Mayor thought that property should be represented by property owners. Would people in their private business entrust their affairs to men without means?

Ald. Butler:—Yes, you have to do it.

ALD. CLARK

Ald. Clark thought that while he might be valuable without property he would be much more valuable with it. The men with property were the men who should transact the business of the country.

MAYOR PEDOLIN

His Worship cited a case long ago in Fredericton when the votes of the propertyless men prevented the city taxing itself for health purposes, until a special Act was passed by the Legislature to remedy the evil.

ALD. STUART

When Ald. Stuart began to speak in closing the debate, Ald. Clark claimed he was not sticking to the question and raised a point of order. The speaker, supported by Ald. Butler, claimed he was in order, and the Mayor so decided.

Ald. Stuart spoke as follows:—We are, as a people, much inclined to boast of the freedom of our representative institutions, but, when we take the trouble to look beneath the surface of things, we see that our system of representation is very far from being perfect—that it is, in many cases, grossly unfair and partial and evidently intended to keep the common people quiet under injustice by making them believe that they have an equality of opportunity which they have not.

When, in 1264, under the dictatorship of Earl Simon the Righteous, representatives of the Commons were admitted to membership in the English parliament, until then exclusively composed of the great landed proprietors, that far-seeing statesman decreed that all members of the parliament should sit and vote in the same house on equal terms. But as soon as the reactionary element again triumphed they, afraid to abolish the representation of the Commons, did the next worst thing they could, that is, separate the Lords and Commons, reserving to the so-called upper house the right to veto any Act of the representatives of the mass of the people. Thus, till 1911, for over 600 years, the British Commons were subject to the supremacy of an hereditary aristocracy owing its authority to the first place to the mere brute force of the sword that accomplished the Norman Conquest.

And, to keep membership in the Commons itself as exclusive as possible, there was no salary for members of that house until last year.

In 1867 by the British North America Act, there was saddled upon Canada at the time when the incubus of the old legislative council should have been relegated to oblivion an appointed and irresponsible Senate which possesses the veto in all things and will not hesitate to use it when anything of real value to the working class is proposed by the Commons.

Then, again, although there is no property qualification for candidates for the Dominion Commons or Provincial Legislative Assemblies, the compulsory election deposits of \$200 and \$100, respectively, to be forfeited if the candidate does not receive half as many votes as the winner, tend to prevent more than two political parties contesting elections—to choke off small parties and prevent open criticism of the leading parties by opponents of both.

In municipal affairs the people were, supposedly, given self government, but with a string to it. In some towns only property holders may vote, but in all our New Brunswick municipalities one must be assessed on so much real or personal property or both to be eligible for the position of Mayor or Alderman, or County Councillor. That is, the man himself, no matter how honest, how industrious and energetic, how learned and accomplished and NO MATTER HOW POPULAR WITH HIS FELLOW CITIZENS, does not count. He may not represent his neighbors unless he is assessed on so much property. Surely this is carrying the worship of the Golden Calf to the extreme of absurdity. This is to say, in effect, that all our municipal representatives now holding office, among whom there are many men of ability and integrity, would, if they should suddenly become unable to qualify financially, become at once unfit to retain their positions. Our municipal law says in effect, that on v the ability to make money and gain and hold on to property fits a man for membership on boards which control the raising and spending of municipal money, the appointment of assessors to value property and apportion taxes and officers to carry out the law. Thus the control of local direct taxation is kept exclusively in the hands of the propertied classes, by the veto of appointed governors and appointed senators and the absence from our system of the Initiative, the Referendum and the Recall, the indirect taxation imposed by the Provincial and Dominion governments is kept out of the hands of the common people.

All this should be changed. The system is unjust. ALL WHO PAY TAXES SHOULD BE EQUALLY ELIGIBLE for the positions controlling the levying and spending of those taxes. Otherwise, the right to vote is a farce. OF WHAT USE IS THE VOTE IF THE VOTERS MAY NOT VOTE FOR WHOM THEY WISH TO REPRESENT THEM? If they must be limited in their choice to members of a certain class—those with so much property—why not deprive them of the vote altogether and let the property holders have all power in name as well as in actual fact?

The argument, often used, that those who have not acquired real or personal property have to pay only a very small portion of the taxes and have no stake in the municipality and, therefore, no interest in the wise and economical government of the same has no foundation in fact. The propertied man ultimately pays the least tax. He who lives in a rented house, and not the owner, ultimately pays all the taxes on that house, for the owner fixes the rent to cover the cost of wear and tear and taxes and leave a clear profit for himself. So with the business man—they add their taxes to the cost of the goods they sell and the consumer pays the bill. The citizens who own only the houses they occupy and the farmers who work their own land without hired help are not much better off, in these days of combination and trusts, than the landless and houseless wage-earner, and their interests are the same as his.

The landless and houseless man whose direct tax is low, but whose indirect tax in rent, etc., is highest of all, has a much greater interest in the prosperity of his town or country than has the more well-to-do citizen, for it is harder for the former to make a living. Knowing, as by sad experience he is coming to know, that any rise in rent and prices finally comes out of him, he can be relied upon more than the latter to do his utmost to avoid borrowing and unnecessary expenditure. The present great indebtedness of our towns and cities, provinces and states and nations cannot be charged to the propertyless part of the population, for they have had no voice in incurring them. A change can only be for the better.

The practice of taxing those who are allowed no effective voice in the imposition and disposition of the money thus raised caused the revolt of the English Commons in 1642, the United States in 1776, Belgium in 1830, and has caused incalculable trouble since. The system is out of date in the twentieth century. It is time for a change. Let all citizens—

white and black, rich and poor, male and female—should have equal opportunity in every walk of life.

MOTION LOST

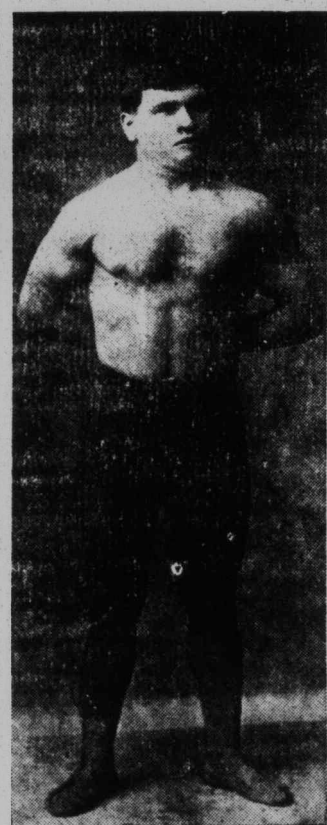
On the question being called the motion was lost, on the following vote:

Yea—Ald. Stuart and Butler. Nay—Ald. Kethro, Stables, Clark, Dickson and Russell.

The Mayor submitted his annual report, which was ordered printed in Town Book. His Worship was pleased to note the improved condition of the town's finances; that fire losses had been slight, owing largely to the efficiency of the fire department and our splendid water service; that the Public Works department had made all the improvements possible; and the economical tendency of the Council.

Adjourned.

Young Samson



GEO. NEDEFF

Geo. Nedeff the Syrian box and wrestler, known as Young Samson, will be at the Newcastle Opera House next Tuesday night when he will box with H. Hachey and try a wrestling feat with Charles Farrah. The sporting fraternity are looking forward to a great exhibition. Moving pictures will complete the program of the evening.

Tit for Tat

A physician of Fort Dodge, Iowa, had a grave made for a man who was dying; but the man got well, and the doctor was joked about it for many years afterwards.

Once, in consultation with three other physicians, he attended a patient who died. After the death, one of the physicians said:

"Since a quick burial is necessary we might inter the body temporarily. I understand that Dr. X has a vacant grave on hand."

"Yes, I have," said Dr. X, "and I believe I am the only physician present whose graves are not all filled."

Criticism.

When we are severely criticised it is far better to try and profit by the criticism than to attempt to take vengeance on our critic. Criticism, as a rule, especially if it be just, will do us more good than flattery. The former is likely to stir us up to correct our faults; the latter tends to make us satisfied with ourselves and our attainments. Extreme sensitivity to adverse criticism is an indication that we think of ourselves more highly than we ought to think. He who is blind to his own faults is not likely to amend them.

They generally need directing much more than they do correcting. When they do wrong they should be shown the right way, and never be punished for the blindness of ignorance. Their first lessons should teach them the ways of right and wrong. They should be carefully guided, not driven.

Sayings of To-Day — And Yesterday
Too many of us complain of the injustice of this world, forgetting there may be more justice than we require in the next.

Englishmen and Americans are now so friendly they can make fun of each other. All friendship is in a way of unstable equilibrium until that point has been reached when it is no longer friendship, but enmity.

2 IN 1 FAMILY



Here is one of the many cases in which several members of one family have benefited from the household box of Zam-Buk. Col. Sgt. Louis Elliott, 3rd Co., 46th Battalion, Peterboro, Ont., says: "The lower part of my face, cheek and chin broke out in small red pimples, which later fostered and broke, forming nasty sores and dry scabs. The itching set up by these eruptions and sores was terrible, and seemed far worse during the night. All kinds of soaps, washes and ointments were tried in the vain attempt to get relief, even to bathing with carbolic acid and water. Finally I thought of Zam-Buk and straightway procured a box at the drug store. One night's application brought great relief from the intense itching, and as I kept on applying this balm daily, the inflammation was soon drawn out, and in less than a week's time the sores were thoroughly healed and every scab banished."

Mrs. Elliott, 139 Sherbrooke St., Peterboro, telling of Zam-Buk's effect on her younger son Walter, says: "He slipped and caused a wound on his right hip, which developed into a running sore. From this smaller sores spread until his lower limbs were covered with ulcers. These proved very alarming and I feared blood-poisoning! I began the Zam-Buk treatment, and it really seemed to aid like magic! In a remarkably short space of time the raw running sores were all healed. I am very grateful indeed for his cure, and I strongly recommend all mothers to keep Zam-Buk always handy."

WHAT ZAM-BUK WILL CURE.
Zam-Buk will be found a cure for cold sores, chapped hands, frost bite, ulcers, blood-poison, varicose sores, piles, scalp sores, ringworm, inflamed patches, babies' eruptions and chapped places, cuts, burns, bruises, and skin injuries generally. All druggists and stores sell at 50c. box or post free from Zam-Buk Co., Toronto, upon receipt of price. You are warned against harmful imitations and substitutes. See the registered name "Zam-Buk" on every package before buying.

FREE BOX
Send this Coupon and 1c. Stamp to Zam-Buk Co., Toronto, and you will receive free trial box, 15c. value.

HEALED BY ZAM-BUK

MEANING OF THE CROSS



This cross (in red) has been adopted in Canada and all over America as the emblem under which the Crusade against Consumption is carried on.

Every reader knows of the ravages of this disease; how, too often, the bread-winner of the family falls a victim, or the young man or young woman, with a promise of a happy and useful life, is stricken down.

This modern Crusade, like the one of old, is a winning fight. The death rate from Consumption in this province shows a decrease of over 25% in the past few years.

Nearly 6000 of these poor sufferers have been cared for in our Consumptive Homes in Muskoka and near Weston. To-day we have 300 patients under treatment—patients who, if they had the money, could not through fear of contagion gain admittance into other hospitals.

In the Muskoka Free Hospital alone we are now caring for 156 patients. 128 of these cannot pay a single cent for the cost of their maintenance, 15 pay 70c. per day, 1 pays 57c. per day, 12 pay 50c. or less per day.

Our Trustees, having faith in the generous-hearted people of Canada, have continued to carry on this work during the past year.

Money to pay doctors, food, nursing and caring of these sick ones, is urgently needed. Will your readers help and have the joy of sharing in a work that has the promise of the Master's reward?

W. J. GAGE

Chairman Executive Committee, National Sanitarium Association

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