

THE ALBERTAN

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TUESDAY, JULY 9, 1912

THE CIVIC INVESTIGATION

Whatever may be said of the report of the civic investigation committee, adopted by a majority vote of the council yesterday, no one will venture to charge that body with cowardice. Where they believed blame to be due they have placed it, and where they found defects in the machinery of civic administration they have recommended, without hesitation, the completest and most drastic re-organization. There were many who feared that the committee was disposed merely to discuss interesting symptoms without passing on to the more delicate and difficult task of diagnosing the ills which have afflicted the municipal body politic. The most cursory perusal of the report dissipates this fear.

No one will be able to deny that they have displayed all the cool courage that would be expected of an experienced army surgeon on the field of battle. Some will doubtless charge them with an excessive eagerness of desire to use the knife.

Great care was exercised by the committee to ascertain all the facts necessary to enable them to pass judgment on the matters referred to them, and no effort was spared that would expose to view facts of even minor importance bearing in any way on the questions at issue. Their findings and recommendations therefore deserve immediate and careful consideration.

By many it was thought that the city council would make no final disposition of the report at the meeting at which it was submitted. A report so severely censuring some of the highest officials in the city, calling for the dismissal of some of these officials and asking for the resignation of others, might quite reasonably have been held for consideration at a special meeting if that course had been thought desirable. A majority of the council, however, including two members who were not members of the committee, voted for the adoption of the report without discussion, believing apparently that exception could not reasonably be taken to the findings of the committee.

Whatever may be the opinion held by anyone concerning any particular finding or recommendation there can be no doubt that the enquiry revealed a condition of affairs at the city hall which is lamentable in the extreme. There can be no difference of opinion regarding the necessity for re-organization, and the time when this must be accomplished is now.

Among those who followed the course of the present enquiry there can hardly be any doubt of the wisdom of the recommendation that all future purchases of goods for the use of city departments be made through one department established for that purpose. Evidence collected by the committee showed that there was too much indiscriminate and unauthorized purchasing by individual officials.

The recommendation that such provision be made as will prevent the use of automobiles owned by the city for any purposes other than those of the business of the city, will also meet with general approval.

Not the least valuable of the suggestions made by the committee is that which calls for the establishment of a system of checking and reporting that will enable the executive officials to assure themselves that the work of the several departments is being efficiently conducted. The absence of some such provision was revealed during the enquiry as one of the most glaring defects of the existing system.

Other recommendations, too numerous to be set forth and discussed in detail, are included in the report.

Of the value of this document there can be no question. The whole enquiry served a useful purpose by directing attention to defects in the municipal administration, the existence of which cannot be tolerated. It revealed in some departments much defective work and poor service for which individual officials appear to have been in part responsible.

The adoption of the committee's report would seem to imply that those officials will be at once called upon to pay by dismissal the full penalty for their shortcomings. By some it may be held that they are not so much the victims of their own incompetence as of an imperfect system of administration which tolerated, if it did not actually encourage, neglect of duty.

Whatever the degree of sympathy extended to any or all of them, however, and whatever the differences of opinion that may exist regarding to the findings of the committee, all will be willing to give the latter credit for accomplishing the task imposed upon them with a thoroughness rarely exhibited by such bodies.

GEO. E. FOSTER'S BULL

In the light of some of the recent utterances of the Hon. Geo. E. Foster, minister of trade and commerce for Canada, one accepts with som-

reluctance the fervid eulogiums of certain British journalists who do not fear to tell him in his face that he is "the greatest orator in Canada," not even excepting Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The following is an extract from one of Mr. Foster's recent speeches in London:

"Whether we adopt a system of preferential trade or not, we must agree that co-operation has taken place, and, whether or not recognized as such, the overseas dominions have cast their grappling hooks of preferential trade on the vitals of the United Kingdom and thus compelled a greater inflow of trade and commerce."

Would it be possible to imagine a more uncomfortable position for the United Kingdom than that suggested by this figure? The use of the grappling hook for the purpose of recovering the bodies of the drowned is common, but is not a matter upon which one cares to allow the mind to dwell. What then could be more horrible than the picture of the Dominions casting grappling hooks into the vitals of so lively and respected a member of the Imperial family as Great Britain? In common with all British subjects we delight to observe any increase of the flow of trade between Great Britain and the Dominions, but we would not care to think that this increase could be encouraged only by operations so revolting as that suggested by the terms of Mr. Foster's speech. If, however, Mr. Foster was referring to the British preference we are disposed to think that he does it an injustice by referring to it in that way.

We would suggest that the former college professor should speak with a little more care, and try, if possible, to resist this impulse to make sense entirely subservient to sound. The people of England are anxious to think well of him, not because he is George Eulas Foster, but because he is the accredited representative of a country in which they are deeply interested at the present time. The people of Canada have made large claims for his ability as a public speaker, and are not anxious that he should make those claims ridiculous.

Stories of the Streets

By HARRY F. BURMESTER.

He was a tall, angular individual, garbed in a frock coat of somber black and possessing the traditional locks of the tragedian. Business had been bad along Broadway that winter and the exponent of Shakespeare was looking for work. An impresario—that's giving him the best of it for he was only an ordinary manager—passed by and recognizing the unmistakable stamp of the "legit" on the Thespian's face, inquired:

"Are you an actor?"
"Yes sir," was the reply.
"Play heavy parts?"
Again a "yes sir."
"Can you play the part of a Mexican?" came back the manager.
"Certainly," was the reply.
"Then roll me a cigarette," shot back the impresario.

"Never rolled a cigarette in my life. What do you use, a steam roller?"
And at this juncture the manager sighed: "More heat waves from that Chicago convention." Then he passed on.

Harry Bulger, playing at the Sherman Grand this week in "The Slim Princess," is responsible for this. It deals with the power of auto-suggestion and force of habit.

A chorus girl married a bellboy. They attended a theatrical performance on the evening of their wedding day. When the bell rang for the curtain to be raised, the chorus girl by force of habit started for the stage and the bellboy-groom hurried to the rear of the theatre for a pitcher of ice-water.

H. C. Forrest, Western Canadian representative of the Oliver Typewriter company, arrived in Calgary recently, opened headquarters, told a few funny stories and then went out to get the business. He was rather unfamiliar with the Alberta territory and en route to Calgary from Chicago, inquired of a sales manager for a safe manufacturing company whom he met on the train, how business was in this province.

"I didn't have much luck," replied the safe salesman.

"How's that?" inquired Forrest. "Back in Chicago they told me that Calgary and Alberta generally were extremely prosperous."

"Quite correct," came back the safe man. Then he explained: "People out in Calgary are so honest that they don't need safes to protect their money and securities. That's why my line of business was dull. A man in most any other branch of business should do wonderfully well, even if he were only a designer for 1913 models of doughnuts. But the safe business is a bloomer in a country where the people are honest."

Real estate brokers must have their little jokes as well as other people. Frank Harcourt and a fellow realty operator were chaffing each other in a friendly way at the King George yesterday and discussing the merits of different subdivisions. Up spoke Harcourt:

"Do you remember George the time you took a farmer out to one of your subdivisions to sell him some city lots? You remember that he expressed himself as highly pleased when you started out in the machine and described the location to him."

"That's a great country," he said. "I own a farm out that way."

"The two of you travelled for several hours and after the lots had been duly inspected, you asked:

"By the way, where is that farm of yours?"
"Oh," was the reply. "We passed that forty minutes ago."
Does distance lend enchantment?

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

JULY CLEARANCE SALE

NOW IN FULL SWING. BIG BARGAINS IN ALL DEPTS. STORE CLOSSES WEDNESDAY AT 1 P. M.



Misses' and Children's Wash Dresses Half Price

Mothers can save half the cost of providing their children with Wash Dresses, if they take advantage of this sale. About 300 to choose from and in good quality zephyrs, cambrics, gingham and prints, wide variety of styles and colors; sizes 2, to 16 years. Regular 50c to \$4.50. July sale 25c to\$2.25

Misses' and Ladies' Cream Serge Suits One Third Off

To be able to secure high grade and stylish cream serge suits at less than their regular prices is an advantage that thrifty women should make the most of. In this lot you will find about 30 splendidly tailored models and in styles that are distinctive and pleasing. Some come in plain cream serge, others with fine blue or black headline stripes; Many have large collars, others the ordinary notch style; mostly plain tailored, several effectively trimmed with silk, satin or fancy braid. Sizes 16 to 38. Reg. \$21.50 to \$39.00. July Sale, THIRD OFF.



SALE OF REMNANTS AT HALF PRICE

Commencing tomorrow morning at 8.30 sharp and continuing until 10 a. m., we place on sale our entire collection of staple and dress goods remnants at half regular prices. Now this is a sale of the greatest importance and one that you cannot afford to miss. The collection offers a wide assortment of materials, colors and lengths, and at all prices. Please remember the time:

WEDNESDAY 8:30 to 10 A. M. HALF PRICE

ROGERS' CUTLERY

Tea Spoons, dozen... \$2.50
Dessert Spoons, dozen \$4.25
Table Spoons, dozen \$4.75
Dessert Forks, dozen \$4.25
Medium Forks, dozen \$4.75
Dessert Knives, dozen \$3.75
Medium Knives, dozen \$4.00
A. D. Coffee Spoons, Berkshire pattern, box of 6... \$1.75
All Other Lines Reduced Proportionately Second Floor

THREE-HOUR SALE OF WASH FABRICS

Following the remnant sale we will offer commencing at 10 o'clock about 1,800 yards of fancy Wash Fabrics, to clear at 17 1/2c yard. These fabrics range in price from 25c to 55c a yard, and comprise the balance of our European importations. They come in a very wide assortment of beautiful designs and color combinations and make up into charming summer dresses, waists, etc. Included you will find striped, checked, figured, spotted and bordered foulards, cotton delaines, cotton voiles and muslins, etc.

Regular 25c to 55c. Wednesday ---not before---until 17 1/2c 1 p. m. A Yd... 17 1/2c

CLUSTER HAIR CURLS

These curls are made of real human hair, and in colors of light, mid, and dark brown. They can be combed out and re-curved when necessary, and are a great bargain at this price. Reg. \$2.00. July Sale.....75c

SHAWL PINS 6 Cards For 5c

Less than a cent apiece for these cards of shawl pins is a value extraordinary. Each card contains 6 assorted size pins, making a total of 36 for 5c. Reg. \$ for 5c. July Sale, 6 cards for5c

NEEDLE WORK DEPARTMENT

Runners and Centres—Made of Burlap and in beautifully tinted designs. Reg. \$1.50 to \$2.00 each. July Sale.....85c

Cushion Tops—Made of Burlap with Painted Indian head design. Reg. 55c. July Sale.....25c

MEN'S SILK TIES 25c



The man who is in need of new ties has a splendid opportunity during this sale to replenish his supply at a great saving. This particular lot which we offer is part of a special purchase, a part odd and broken assortments taken from regular stocks. There are about 200 dozen in the lot and all are made of plain or knitted silk, in a wide assortment of colors and designs. Reg. 50c to 75c. July Sale.....25c

MEN'S SHIRTS 95c

Shirts that you would willingly pay \$1.25 to \$2.25 for in the regular way can be secured during this clearance sale at the low price of 95c. They are made in the coat style and from high quality fabrics. The patterns are neat and distinctive and are in wide variety. All sizes; about 100 dozen in the lot. Regular \$1.25 to \$2.25. July Sale.....95c



Wednesday Morning Grocery Specials

Wagstaff's New Season's Strawberry Jam, 5 pound pail tomorrow morning.....85c
Raisins—Seeded, 1 lb. packets, tomorrow morning, 5 for 55c
Currants, 1 pound packets, tomorrow morning 5 for 55c
Egg O Baking Powder, 1 lb. tin, tomorrow morning.....20c
Armour's Pure Lard, 3 pound tin, tomorrow morning.....45c
Armour's Pure Lard, 5 pound tin, tomorrow morning.....75c
Fancy Navel Oranges, regular 50c dozen, tomorrow morning, dozen.....35c
No. Phone or C. O. D. Orders.

Pro-Brussel Rugs at Great Reductions

About 100 good quality Pro-Brussel Rugs enter the clearance sale tomorrow with their prices greatly reduced. Housekeepers, etc., in need of new rugs, will find them to be surprising values and better in reality than they appear on paper. In floral and conventional designs and in beautiful art colorings of green, brown, red and tan.

Size 2x3 yards. Regular \$10.50 for.....	\$9.95
Size 3x3 yards. Regular \$12.00 for.....	\$7.95
Size 3x3 1/2 yards. Regular \$14.50 for.....	\$9.50
Size 3x4 yards. Regular \$16.00 for.....	\$11.75
Size 3x6 yards. Regular \$17.75 for.....	\$13.75

GREAT BARGAINS IN BON-TON CORSETS

Bon-Ton Corsets are famous for their fit, style, workmanship and quality, and are considered splendid value even at regular prices. Tomorrow, however, we will offer 50 pairs of odd sizes and discontinued lines to clear at great reductions. The lot comprises an assortment of styles, suitable for all figures, and in all sizes. Most of the corsets are in perfect condition. The elastic in a few, however, has perished, but can be replaced at the small cost of 25c. Please remember that these specials are for Wednesday morning, and that it is advisable to come early for best choice.

19 Pairs Bon-Ton and Adjusto Corsets— Sizes 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30. R. g. \$4.50. Sale Price.....\$1.95	23 Pairs Bon-Ton Corsets, sizes 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30. Regular \$5.25. Sale Price.....\$2.95	8 Pairs Bon-Ton Corsets, sizes 18, 19, 25, and 27 only. Reg. \$6.50. Sale Price \$3.35 On Sale Wednesday 9 a.m. Not Before
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LIMITED

WEDNESDAY 9.30 p. m.
PHONE 1492

Millinery

One of the smartest season, presenting Every trimmed and priced decided.

\$1.50

3 off. sailors 1-3 off.

with honeycomb and grey, regular \$2.25

etc., regular 20c, 25c

Coats \$5.00

A limited number cash, etc., smartly protection to delicate and comfortable.

\$5.00

SH FROCKS

day in "Cashes" the colors are distastefully blended, the wide 75c

75c

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ose—To combine coolness in ladies' fiber fash-

50c

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Rooms

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rt service. liberal

3.30 to 5.30 daily, and cake, or bread

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Fletcher's



and which has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. It is just as good as any other medicine for the relief of the health of the individual.

TORIA

For Castor Oil, Pare- It is pleasant. It is more than thirty years of relief of Constipation, ching Frolics and omach and Bowels, and natural sleep-er's Friend.

TORIA ALWAYS

ture of

etchers

Always Bought

30 Years

EST. NEW YORK CITY.