

The St. John Standard.

H. V. MACKINNON, Publisher
 82 Prince William St., St. John, N. B., Canada

REPRESENTATIVES:
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
 City Delivery, \$4.00 per year
 By Mail in Canada, \$4.00 per year
 Semi-Weekly Issue, \$1.50 per year
 Semi-Weekly to U. S., \$2.50 per year
 (Agent Measurement)

ADVERTISING RATES:
 Contract Display, 5c per line
 Classified, 2c per word
 Inside Readers, 9c per line
 Outside Readers, 15c per line
 (Agent Measurement)

ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1920.

THE BY-ELECTION.

The announcement that a decision had been arrived at by the eleventh hour by a few of the extreme partisans in the Liberal party to put up a candidate in opposition to the Hon. R. W. Wignmore certainly came as a great surprise to the vast majority of the citizens, who had accepted it as a settled thing that no opposition was to be offered. It is universally recognized that Mr. Wignmore during the years he has represented St. John Albert in Parliament has done excellent work on behalf of the constituency, and this under conditions that did not lend themselves very favorably to much being done. Now that he is a member of the Government, and in a position to do a very great deal for the city and counties, the idea of putting him out strikes most people as the height of folly. What is St. John going to gain by turning him down? What can a member sitting in the cold shades of opposition do for the constituency? St. John wants a good deal done for its harbor, for one thing, to fit it to properly handle the ever-increasing traffic that must be dealt with through this port for one half of the year. Since Sir Douglas Hazen ceased to represent the city in the Government, the needs of this port in that and other respects have been shockingly neglected. Mr. Carvell was the New Brunswick representative in the Government for some months, but he did nothing for the port; the little that has been done has been done through Mr. Wignmore's efforts. Now Mr. Wignmore is in that position when he can get done what is needed to be done, and fortunately this fact is appreciated by the vast majority of people, who intend to see that he has the opportunity to do it.

The determination to oppose him, we understand, was arrived at as a result of an imperative message from the Liberal headquarters at Ottawa. The Hon. Mackenzie King is about to start on a missionary tour throughout the western provinces, and it would never do for him to have to face western audiences and have the taunt flung at him that his party was so rotundly weak in the Maritime Provinces that they dare not oppose the Government nominee. Even in Colchester the opposition does not come from the Liberals, but the farmers. Simply, therefore, to save Mr. King's face, some show of opposition had to be put up. The greatest marvel is that an intelligent man like Dr. Emery should be willing to be made the goat. At the last election he was at the bottom of the poll, and lost his deposit, and for the average man one experience of this sort is usually enough. At the present time and under existing circumstances, when under no conditions can he expect to face anything else than utter defeat, his consenting to run again is more than ever surprising.

A glance at the names on the respective nomination papers tells quite a story. Mr. Wignmore's papers contain the names of prominent citizens of both political parties; there are almost as many Liberals among them as there are Conservatives, and they are all of them men of standing in the community. Dr. Emery, on the other hand, has just a dozen names behind him, and these are but the small fry of the party, not a single representative man among them. A fortnight from today Dr. Emery is likely to be a sadder, if he is not a wiser, man.

THE EXHIBITION OPEN.

The ceremonial proceedings on Saturday raised the curtain on another presentation of the St. John Exhibition Association's biennial shows. Everything is now on view, and the fair in full swing. After a lapse of six years the public is glad to see it again, and to note that the chief idea in the mind of the management is to make the fair reflect the times. Processes change in the interests of economy, now in one industry, now in another. The war gave a wonderful impulse to inventive ingenuity, to the practical application of science and to scientific research. The lessons that were thus learnt and proved so serviceable for the overflow of German militarism are coming more and more into utility for the increase of production. We have entered upon a new age, an age in which the mechanic arts are speedily undergoing change for the better, and there is no country that has more use for the most modern and efficient means of production than this Canada of ours.

The exhibits on view are naturally mainly the products of New Brunswick, and are typical of what can be done here. This province has much to offer those who seek a home within its borders; it still has a large amount of unoccupied territory, in which natural resources of every kind

abound. It holds out opportunities that must—and would under a live administration—bring to the best class of settlers from the United Kingdom and the war-ridden countries of Europe, who are seeking homes abroad. The exhibits at the show let everybody see what the province is able to produce, and what advance has been made along lines of wealth production and in the way of general achievement. No New Brunswicker who desires to be up-to-date in his knowledge of the industries of his province should miss the Exhibition. There was unfortunately one regrettable feature in connection with the opening proceedings. The occasion appears to have been made use of by some of the members of the Government for political purposes, something which has never been done on any previous occasion. People did not attend the opening for the purpose of hearing the praises of the Premier Government sung by members of the Executive, and to many the proceedings were very uninteresting. It is a sad commentary on conditions existing in the Government that an occasion that should be absolutely non-political had to be seized upon as a means of disseminating partisan propaganda; and it does not redound to the credit of Premier Foster and his colleagues that they should have followed this course.

THE RUMPS IN THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT.

That everything is not all smooth sailing in Provincial Government circles seems to be generally admitted, in fact for some little time considerable friction has existed, which has necessitated the utmost care on the part of the Premier to keep it within bounds. It has recently been asserted that the disagreement between Dr. Smith and his colleagues has been on account of the rate of stumpage, he being, it is said, in favor of a \$7 rate, while the other members are not prepared to fix it quite so high. This is true; but Dr. Smith is not insisting on this so much, and it is prepared to give way for a time. The real cause of the trouble is, we understand, over the proposed game sanctuary. At the session of 1919 an Act was passed under which a tract of forest lands containing 400 square miles was to be laid aside as a game refuge, wherein no hunting was to be permitted. This is a matter in which Dr. Smith has taken considerable interest, and it was through his efforts that the bill was passed.

Now it appears that the establishment of this game sanctuary will interfere with the hunting privileges of certain guides, who got at Hon. Mr. Tweeddale and induced him to endeavor to put a spoke in Dr. Smith's wheel, and so upset the whole plan. Mr. Tweeddale, being a man of small ideas, who appears to feel that the interests of one or two of his guide friends are of a good deal more importance than the preservation of game, fell for the proposal, and used his influence, with it seems, a certain amount of success, to spoil Dr. Smith's plans. Naturally, the latter will not submit to any such course; he is the Minister in charge of the Crown Lands, and as such is entitled to have his policies carried out, if they are likely to be conducive to the welfare of the natural resources of the province, of which the game is a part.

It is to be regretted that Premier Foster had not firmness enough to tell his colleague from Victoria to attend to his own Department, and leave the Crown Lands alone. The Premier has had one experience of Mr. Tweeddale's folly already in connection with the Legislature, and that should have been lesson enough to him. Because Victoria County provided a refuge for him when St. John County turned him down is no reason whatever why the Premier should bow down to his colleague's dictation all the time. And it must surely be apparent to the Premier that the formation of a game preserve is of considerably greater importance than the personal interests of one or two guides. If Dr. Smith insists upon his policy being carried out, or else his resignation being accepted, no one will blame him. He cannot, consistently with his dignity, submit to be dictated to by the one member of the Government for whom no member of the Legislature has the slightest respect, and who only got into the Government all because there was no other member to give the position to. We believe Dr. Smith has honestly endeavored to discharge the duties pertaining to his position to the best of his ability and he has achieved a certain amount of success therein. The latter remark cannot be made truthfully of the head of the Department of Agriculture.

THE SPEAKER'S CHAIR.

The offer of a new Speaker's Chair for the House of Commons by the United Kingdom Branch of the Empire Parliamentary Union is, as the Montreal Gazette says, at once a graceful and substantial expression of goodwill on the part of the mother parliament, and has been gratefully accepted as such. The former chair was, with all other furnishings of the Chamber, destroyed with the Parliament Buildings. That which is now to be sent across the Atlantic will be a replica of the chair in the House of Commons at Westminster, finished in light oak so as to harmonize with the fittings of the Chamber. An appeal issued by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Birkenhead, and Mr. Speaker Lowther has met with a ready response from the United Kingdom Branch of the Union, which is largely representative of the British Parliament. The chair, which will cost from £1,800 to £2,000, is being built by Sir Frank Bates, Director of Works of His Majesty's Office of Works, and will bear upon it a scroll containing the names of the donors. "The maintenance of a common tradition among the Parliaments of the Empire," said the Chancellor and Speaker in their appeal, "is a matter of highest importance at the present juncture of imperial affairs; and in this connection we feel that the gift of the chair will be exceptionally appropriate and welcome." Sir Howard D'Aville is now in Ottawa arranging details in connection with the setting up of the chair, which will come as a welcome gift, and will remain one of the treasures of the new home of Canada's Parliament.

The death on Saturday last of Mr. Donald Morrison, at Newcastle, removes from this earthly scene one of the best known men on the North Shore. The late Mr. Morrison took a very active part in public life for many years, he having been one of the representatives of Northumberland in the Provincial Legislature, in which he attained to the dignity of the Speaker's chair, resigning from that position in 1908 to accept the nomination for the County for the House of Commons. In that contest he was, however, defeated. At a later period he was appointed Fishery Inspector for District No. 2, which comprises all the maritime counties of the province except St. John and Charlotte, which position now becomes vacant. Mr. Morrison was a man who commanded the respectful regard of all with whom he was brought into contact, as an upright and honest man, and at all times a courteous gentleman.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

WHAT OTHERS SAY.
 Britain's "Happiest" Decision.
 (Detroit News.)
 If Egypt is to be free, that act fulfils such a purpose in that specific case. It is one of the happiest decisions made by the British Government in recent years, and as a quieting influence on the whole of the Mohammedan world, at present in subjection to European powers, cannot be overestimated. It says, in effect, to all subject peoples that European good faith is to be restored to par.

Soviet Divorce System.
 (Kingston Whig.)
 Under the Soviet system a husband can put off his wife as he would a garment of which he has tired. If he desires a divorce and his wife does not, the husband simply has to wait three months and he is free of her and can marry again, no matter how much justice there is on the woman's side. The couple are put on probation for three months, and so given an opportunity to "patch it up," and then if the husband still wants a divorce it is granted. Where both husband and slaves to man's bestial passions has without any other reason, in short, every social law that is calculated to save women from becoming mere slaves to man's bestial passions has been wiped out in Russia by the Bolsheviks.

An Ancestor.
 "Old Squire Harding," an early resident of the town of Old Mystic, Conn., has been honored as an ancestor of Warren G. Harding by the genealogists of that city of the present day. He was a typical New Englander, and came from Hardings who fought in the wars of the Revolution and 1812. The "Old Squire" was the postmaster of Old Mystic, and the village storekeeper. He was one of the founders of the town's bank, and a leader in all its enterprises. Later he represented his district in the legislature. As a proof that among the various strains of nationality which flow in the blood of the Harding of today a picture of Henry Harding, "the old Squire," shows that he and candidate Warren G. Harding have more in common than a surname. The people of Mystic have carefully traced out an ancestral line to show that Warren G. Harding is a true descendant of their venerated citizen.

THE LAUGH LINE

If you convince a man against his will you may have to do it over again next day?
 The speculator who gets a straight tip often finds there is something crooked in it.
 A post tells us that babies are now waves in life's oceans. Wrong! They are fresh squalls.
 Deceived.
 Miss Lotybrov:—We did you leave the agricultural college?
 Miss Manchester:—The catalogue mentioned thorough courses in husbandry. I took two terms and there wasn't even a hint about husbands.
 Those Wage.
 Bix:—That's the fourth umbrella I've lost this year.
 Dix:—Your overhead expense must be considerable.—Boston Transcript.

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PA'Z

THE PARK AVE. NEWS.

Weather. Pearse.
 Sports. Sd Hunt has started to save up for a new bicycle with a coaster brake, but if the money don't save up as quick as he expects he says he may just get a new bell for his old bicycle instead.
 Intriguing Packs About Intriguing People. Puds Simkins can do a fine imitation of Rip Van Winkle, but anybody that wants to see him do it has to come around when he is giving himself a shampoo, on account of the latter being the main part of the imitation.
 POME BY SKINNY MARTIN.
 O Fudge.
 O I feel so poetick in summer
 At the side of how everything looks,
 That I generally squash a few flowers
 In the inside pages of books.
 Lost and Found.—A big red book entitled History of the World Volume 2, with a little flat book inside of it entitled How to Bat by Babe Ruth. Finder can keep the big book. See Sam Cross.
 Dogs Washed by Expert Dog Washers. 10 cents a bath if we wash them in your own yard, 15 cents if we do it in our yard and save you all the splashing. The Ed Wernick and Lew Davis Dog Washing Co. (Advertisement.)

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