

# The Evening Times and Star

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## G. FRED FISHER'S PLATFORM

- 1.—(a) The completion and signing of the contract with the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission for Musquash power.
- (b) The appointment of an independent Civic Hydro Electric Commission to construct a Civic Distribution System and operate same.
- 2.—Completion of Plans and Specifications for a Civic Distribution System.
- 3.—That an offer be made by the city to purchase the entire property of The New Brunswick Electric Power Company, at the sum named by the Supreme Court of New Brunswick, March 7, 1920, \$2,577,455.56, and the offer to remain open for ten days only.
- 4.—In the event of the offer not being accepted by the Power Company, in the time specified, the city to proceed immediately with the construction of its own distribution system.

### A FALSE ASSERTION.

Those who are working in the interests of the New Brunswick Power Company and the candidate it is trying to elect as mayor, assert that if the city takes and distributes hydro there will be an increase in taxation.

This assertion is untrue. Hydro will be paid for by the users of hydro, and not one cent will be charged to general taxation. Not only will the users of hydro themselves not have to pay more taxes, but what they will save in their light and power bills will be a goodly contribution toward their ordinary taxes.

Not more taxes, but more money with which to pay the ordinary taxes will be the result when the city distributes its own light and power. This has been the experience wherever municipalities have gone into the business of getting power at cost. They have been relieved of the burden of providing fat profits for a private corporation, and enabled to put money in their own pockets.

The man who votes in the interest of the New Brunswick Power Company votes to take bread and butter off his own table. We are told that if the city goes into the hydro business the municipality will cut its rates and fight. For what purpose? To benefit the people? On the contrary, it would be to fight the people, and, if the company won, how long would its rates remain down? Has any citizen of St. John any doubt on that question? The only safety for the city is to fight and win. Then it will control its own affairs.

Whoever controls the light, heat and power of a city controls its growth. No thoughtful citizen will dispute this assertion, for its truth is obvious. Therefore St. John, having the opportunity to gain control, would deliberately stifle its own growth if it threw up the sponge and left that control in the hands of a corporation whose excessive rates have prevented industrial expansion in the past.

The attempt to put into the minds of people, who have not thought the thing through, the fear of increased taxation, is made in the interests of the power company and for no other reason. The company fears nothing else so much as it fears competition by the city. It knows what the end would be. Therefore it will stop at nothing to confuse or frighten the people into voting for Mr. McLean. Let nobody be deceived. This fight is to determine whether the city gets cheap light and power or whether the New Brunswick Power Company is to have its way—and its profits on watered stock.

### NOW IT'S \$7,000,000.

The New Brunswick Power Company has issued a circular to its shareholders which charges Mr. Fisher with having adopted a policy of confiscation, and declares that "your company's plant could not today be replaced for \$7,000,000."

What do the citizens think of this brazen falsehood? It is part of a deliberate campaign to fool the people and prevent them from getting the benefit of the Musquash development. Mr. Bodell only asked the city to give the property of the company a value of \$8,000,000. Of course there was also the \$2,000,000 of common stock or "water," which would be made dividend paying if the company could control the situation; but \$7,000,000 is an entirely new figure. The supreme court finding in the matter was that "the finding of

the (Currier) commissioners that the original cost of such property was \$2,800,000 was not justified by the evidence, and that the amount of such original cost was the sum of \$2,577,455.56." This is what Mr. Fisher says he would be willing the city should pay for the property.

The whole circular issued by the company is a piece with this \$7,000,000 assertion. It is incorrect, misleading, and designed to deceive. While ostensibly addressed to the shareholders, who know that it is bunk, it is really prepared for public consumption, to arouse sympathy or to confuse the issue, which is power at cost. The city has nothing to do with the power company. It is offered hydro at cost and freedom from monopoly. If the power company gets in the way, it must accept the consequences. Its latest diversion will merely reveal still more clearly to the people its real character.

### THE IRISH FREE STATE.

Only the assent of the British parliament is now required to make the Irish Free State a member of the British commonwealth of nations. The parliament in Dublin has unanimously adopted the constitution, and the assent of the British parliament is a foregone conclusion. As Deputy Milroy has pointed out, the next step will be to bring together in closer sympathy the two sections of Ireland, south and north.

The new Irish constitution is rightly described as a monument to Collins and Griffith. They, being dead, yet speak. It is a strange fact that on a recent Sunday evening in Symphony Hall, Boston, at a meeting of Irishmen, several persons listed the names of these two men, whose services to Ireland have been of incalculable value; and it illustrates very clearly the bitterness of feeling between the upholders of the Free State and the republicans, on both sides of the Atlantic. Surely, now that the new constitution has been adopted in Dublin, the further strife into which the men at the head of Irish affairs in Dublin appear to be worthy successors of Collins and Griffith, and their labors are bearing good fruit. The other members of the British commonwealth of nations will heartily welcome an united Irish Free State, and rejoice when the long struggle has ended in peace and good will.

Mr. Lloyd George has at last expressed his views regarding the Labor party. He says:—"Labor has declared ruthless war upon us. In self-defense therefore, you have to fight and resist the onslaught of the Socialist party of this country. The principles put forward by the extreme section of them go to the root of national prosperity. Under no conditions can we accept them. Therefore our attitude toward them is defined by themselves and defined by the policy which they put forward."

The New Brunswick Power Company would like to make the people of St. John pay interest and dividends on \$7,000,000, its latest estimate of the value of its property. A vote for Mr. McLean will be a vote for the candidate the power company wants at City Hall.

The power company advocates are still trying to persuade the people that the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission cannot deliver the goods at Musquash. Yet it is extremely anxious to gain control of that power. It knows the power is there.

### TAXI DRIVER STABBED.

Four Men Attack Him After Complaining of Excessive Bill.

Complaining that the taxicab bill was excessive, four men whom he drove in his taxicab from Broadway near Forty-second street to Ninth avenue and Thirty-fifth street, beat and stabbed Joseph Morris, twenty-four years old, of 107 First street, Corona, L. I., when he insisted upon being paid. Morris, painfully injured, was left on the sidewalk at Ninth avenue and Thirty-fifth street. Morris staggered to his feet and sped in his cab to the French Hospital. He later gave the police a description of the four men.

### FINDS RING IN GIZZARD.

Illinois Farmer Kills Eighteen Chickens in Search For Lost Diamond.

Peoria, Ill., Oct. 26.—When Henry Wagener lost a \$250 diamond ring here recently, he reported the loss to the police and then proceeded to kill eighteen chickens. He found the ring in the gizzard of one of the chickens. He advised him to search his chickens. Wagener did.

After killing eight, he found the missing gem in the gizzard of one. He has invited his neighbors to a chicken dinner.

### Wire Victim Leaves 14 Children.

Bristol, Conn., Oct. 26.—Dennis Lease, fifty-six years old, of this town, was instantly killed when he touched a high tension wire while working at the Bristol Brass Corporation. Lease, who was a millwright, was assisting in putting up a brace for the wires when he caught hold of one. He leaves his widow and fourteen children.

### LIGHTER VEIN.

Had Nothing to Say. (From Pans, Ill., Palladium) At the hospital the wounded man refused while alive to make any statement concerning the motive affray or to give out the name of his assailant. He made no post-mortem statement, it is said.

Really Impossible. "Be a good Kiana boy and stop crying," said the benevolent old gentleman to the weeping child. "I can't," sobbed the child. "Here's a penny," persisted he. "Now, why can't you be a good little boy?" "Cause," said the child, "I'm a girl."

Breaking the News. The butler came into his master's room wearing a woe-begone expression. "There's very bad news this morn'ing," he said. "What is it, John?" "Poor Mr. Wilton has been an' gone an' hung himself. An' that isn't the worst; that there fox has been into the house and killed twenty of the young pheasants!"

### PROHIBITION OLD IN SOUTH AFRICA

Bechuanaaland was "Dry" Long Before Anti-Saloon League Existed.

London, September 20.—(By Mail)—For fifty years Bechuanaaland, north of Cape Colony in South Africa, has enjoyed peace and prosperity under Chief Khama, with Great Britain lending a helping hand when needed. Khama, said to be the oldest native ruler in Africa, is now celebrating his jubilee. As he looks back over the years he sees much to make him happy, but nevertheless he is disturbed by the future of the protectorate. His son and heir belongs to the new order, looks upon Khama as an old fogey, does not believe as he does, and shows no inclination to follow in his footsteps. For twenty-five years the chief has been away from home and has not seen his old father. He turned up only just in time to attend the jubilee celebration.

According to the story of him told by the Bulawayo correspondent of the Morning Post, Khama is a remarkable man.

"Only in Bechuanaaland," the correspondent writes, "do we find an exception to the normal rule that the coming of Christianity and civilization means the passing of the authority of the chief."

Khama is a genuine Christian. He practices his religion. He succeeded in maintaining his influence over his people through a difficult transition period when the old order was giving place to the new. Khama was not a namby-pamby ruler. He made a law that none of his people should touch firewater and he enforced it.

"One of the secrets of Khama's success," writes the correspondent, "is his imposition of absolute prohibition on the drinking of alcohol. Bechuanaaland was dry before the Anti-Saloon League of America began to think of prohibition."

At the time of the Jameson raid, in 1895, Khama needed help. He crossed the ocean and saw the "White Man's Queen." Queen Victoria told him the raid would be stopped, and that as long as she lived his rights should not be infringed by any of her people. That promise was kept.

As part of the jubilee celebrations Khama's native affairs were before him in review, and there was dancing and great demonstrations of loyalty. Many speeches were made. The real magicians of the land, the white settlers showed congratulations on the venerable old man. The ceremonies lasted a long time. When they were done at last, Khama rose to his feet and made an impressive speech. At its close, to the surprise of everybody, he made a pathetic appeal to his son, Sekgoma.

"I have a word for my son, I do know him. He has grown up away from me and from his people, so that he cannot know my wishes and their ways. If he is willing to walk in the road that has been shown to me, all will be well. He has not yet given his heart to God. If he will give his heart to God I shall have no doubts."

### WILFUL WILHELM.

(The Cleveland Press.) For a mere bagatelle of \$225,000, Wilhelm, former German Kaiser, consents to tell his version of modern history. Wilhelm's "Memoirs," as they are called, might better have been styled "Me—and the world."

The memoirs give an insight into the mind of the erstwhile War Lord of Europe. Wilhelm, the fallen, is the same psychological curiosity after his humiliated days as he was in his palmy days when he was "Me and God."

## MR. McLELLAN'S THREE CHANGES

First, he said that he had investigated the Musquash through his own engineer and had found that there was little power there—only a few hundred H. P.

Secondly, he discovered, and proclaimed, that the system of storage dams would ensure plenty of water and plenty of power.

Thirdly—today—he says he is doubtful about the capacity of the Musquash, and he talks about the need for a steam stand-by.

So does the Power Company. That's part of the company's game. Anything to keep St. John's citizens from enjoying the benefits of Musquash power at cost. Anything to keep the people's money flowing into the Power Company's coffers through excessive monopoly rates.

Well, election day will soon be here. On that day, roll up the majority for old St. John, for cheap power free from monopoly rule and monopoly profits!

## NOT A VISION BUT A REALITY

Cities and Towns Which Now Have a Maximum Rate of Three Cents—A One-Cent Rate the Objective—What It Means to the Average Citizen.

The new era of electric power is discussed by Carl D. Thompson, secretary of the Public Ownership League of America, in one of a series of articles on Public Ownership of the Nation's Power, in the October number of the Locomotive Engineers' Journal. His article is as follows:

The New Era of Electric Power. We are in the beginnings of the greatest industrial revolution the world has ever seen. As the invention of the steam engine, a few generations ago, completely revolutionized all methods of wealth production and distribution, so now the invention and application of modern electrical development—in industrial processes.

Only the changes in the present processes are certain to be vastly greater and their benefits more far-reaching. Not only are we to light our homes and our city streets, parks and public buildings, but in the home, the store, the factory, and the mine, in transportation and communication and upon the farm this modern wonder-maker is swiftly remaining human society and human life almost invisible.

For the blessing of all. And all these benefits are to be put within the reach of all the people—the poor as well as the rich, the man of the street as well as the man of the palace, the classes, those of small means as well as those of abundance. This is the significant thing about the possibilities of modern electrical development—that all the people may benefit, that those who most need it, those who labor and are heavily taxed, the man who is worn out with his toil, the woman weary and tired of cooking, washing, cleaning, scrubbing and mending of clothes—these shall have some measure of their burden lifted and carried for them this is the possibility now within our reach.

Electricity America. But not at nine cents a kilowatt hour. That is about the price the private corporations charge. It varies greatly, of course, and there are so many different rates, sliding scales, discounts and rebates, that it is difficult to tell just exactly what the private companies do charge. But it averages something like nine cents a kilowatt hour to the average ultimate consumer.

And that is a price so high that the average family, the average business, the average school, the average hospital, the average factory, the average office, the average government, the average city, the average country, the average world, cannot afford to use it. It is a price that is paid for the privilege of using electricity. It is a price that is paid for the privilege of using electricity. It is a price that is paid for the privilege of using electricity.

That is what we are striving for—to electricity America. And we shall point out just how all this can be done; indeed, just how it is already being done in those cities and states where the people are alert and aware of these possibilities, and where they have had the courage and tenacity enough to go out and get them.

It will pay you to turn aside from your rush, worry and work and look into this. In the city of Springfield, Illinois, a person can buy electric current for cooking at one cent and a half a kilowatt hour. Springfield has a well managed light and power plant. In Springfield, complete electric service for the home costs only \$2.50 a month on the average, or \$20 a year. It is cheaper than gas, and the official measure of the city to its citizens reads:

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## TELLS HALIFAX MEETING OF THE FEDERATION PLAN

Rev. H. E. Thomas Favors a More Central Location for a Maritime College Group—Proposals re U. N. B.

Rev. H. E. Thomas, one of Mr. Allison's representatives at the important Halifax meeting on college federation, returned yesterday. In an interview asked for by The Times Mr. Thomas said: "The meeting was quite representative, there being present, besides college delegates, representatives of the maritime provincial governments. The principle of federation was carried without dissent, which was quite natural when one considers that six sister institutions now minister to this limited constituency. It was only the principle which carried, and in this and any other action the members of the conference were not vested with any power by which they committed their respective colleges.

"By this federation any college co-operating would retain its identity, whilst there would be raised up a new university to specialize in courses in science."

Question of Location. He added that the question of location was one of great interest to New Brunswick people, and he had raised his voice in setting forth the claims of some more central place than Halifax. The report of the Carnegie Foundation had admitted that for the purposes of the maritime provinces some point other than Halifax was desirable. Mr. Thomas had named Moncton especially as offering special advantages, and as being a real centre to the constituency of the maritime provinces. He had to be faced that Dalhousie with wonderful foresight now possessed the nucleus of a magnificent institution, and the meeting had voted for the removal of the federating colleges to Halifax. Mr. Thomas was not sure that even this late date the matter of location might not be reopened. He said that statistics could be produced to show that the average number of students drew sixty-nine per cent of the students from within a radius of 10 miles. It was only in Dalhousie's magnificent plant, he felt, that any exploration could be made for side-tracking the new institution to Halifax.

An Appeal to U. N. B. One step in advance taken at the recent meeting, Mr. Thomas continued, was the making of a very strong appeal to the University of New Brunswick to enter the federation. It was decided that one of the constituent colleges should be non-denominational. To this college, Dalhousie would hand over its unallocated arts funds. These funds, with some residences included, would be being done.

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aggregate about \$500,000, which would mean that with at least \$500,000 from the Carnegie Foundation, the U. N. B. would enter the federation with assets of \$1,000,000. This was a large sum which could not easily be ignored, and no doubt would have careful consideration.

Asked as to the number of colleges likely to enter the proposed federation, Mr. Thomas said that while at present there were only two or three in any degree definitely committed, yet the conviction was deepening in many minds that although sacrifices must be made to enter, yet possibly greater sacrifices were entailed in remaining outside. It might be more difficult to stay out than to enter in.

A Matter of Finance. From his own personal viewpoint the question of finance was one of the most important and it had to be considered. His hope had been that with the support of a large corporation the whole system of higher education might be democratized that wider opportunities would be afforded to the youth of the maritime provinces than are now given. Every boy and girl who desired it was entitled to the privilege of an arts course, but that was largely a class privilege at present.

The determining factor with him, he declared, was whether the proposed scheme would give the privilege where it was now denied. The point was not yet reached where this could definitely be settled, but there was a great fear in his mind that the federation might not decrease the cost of higher education. This desirable objective was not met by merely providing in the maritime provinces one of those colleges of high proportions and high standards which now are found only in Montreal and large centres in the United States. In whatever presentation is made of the case for federation the fine contribution which the small colleges had made and were making was not to be ignored.

Mr. Thomas paid a high tribute to the fine spirit manifested by the authorities of Dalhousie, who were ready to practically sink their identity and and all its plant to the new institution. Some cause at least could be shown for giving the name Dalhousie to the new university.

An Open Mind. Mr. Thomas said he had tried to carry an open mind into the conference, and his attitude would be determined by the details of the scheme yet to be worked out. He thought in principle he gave fullest support.

"When we consider that in this movement we are probably building for the next 100 years," he said, "it becomes the part of every good citizen to study

### THREE JEWELS PRESENTED.

A concert and social were held last night in the Orange Hall, in Simonds street, by Dominion Lodge, L. O. B. A., with F. L. Potts acting as chairman. Past Mistress's Jewels were presented by W. McKinney to Mrs. E. L. Moran, Mrs. James Brown, Mrs. John Shields and Mrs. Thomas Roberts. Mrs. Sweet was given a handsome bouquet of carnations in recognition of her work for the order. A dainty supper was served after the programme had been completed. Those taking part were Mrs. Everett, Miss Hannah Marshall, Mrs. Vernon Henderson, Mrs. Hamilton, Mr. Wetmore, Samuel Holdier, Mrs. Oscar Brentnall, Jack Simpson, Miss Margaret McKinney, Willard Cunningham, Miss Ruth Wood, Miss Carmen Crowley, Charles Alcham, Miss Mary Ellsworth and P. M. H. Shelton.

### ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED.

Mrs. Margaret Horgan, 74 Lansdowne avenue, has announced the engagement of her youngest daughter, Ellen Elizabeth, to Patrick Edmund Barry, the marriage to take place early in November.

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