

## ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING NEW LOCAL HOTEL

Company Now Seeking Incorporation — Many Interesting Matters Before Commercial Club.

Last night's meeting of the Commercial Club, held in the G. W. V. A. assembly hall, was one of the most enthusiastic in the history of the organization. Speeches of an optimistic and encouraging nature were given by Mayor Schofield and Horace A. Gagne, K.C., of Montreal, the various teams reported progress in their different objectives and the discussion which arose over each subject showed the members were taking a live interest in the activities of the club. E. A. Schofield, who was styled by Chairman C. H. Peters as "St. John's progressive executive," was given a hearty reception. In his short talk, "Do it for St. John," he referred to work which has been done in the province during the war period, when some 400,000 people raised more than \$3,000,000 for war purposes. He asked for co-operation among the various interests in the city, saying that the city and the port were on the eve of great developments. He suggested May 21, as a "get-together day" for the public spirited organizations, and, referring to the plans of his administration, promised that as soon as the debentures now issued by the city which are on sale at city hall, are fully taken up, the work of paving the main streets will start. In closing he referred to Horace A. Gagne who had just arrived, as one of the leading representatives of the real French-Canadian race and a credit to the Dominion of Canada.

Horace A. Gagne opened his brief address with reference to Aesop's fable re-



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garding the bundle of sticks, typifying unity, and the protest by the hands and feet against working for the month, which got all the food. Each province, he pointed out, is a limb of the dominion, and the geographical position of this province makes it the natural mouth and

it should be the natural inlet and outlet of all Canadian shipping. "The more you eat," he declared, "the more will we be satisfied. You are our winter port; you have always been looked upon in Quebec as our port, winter or summer." He was proud of the work of his compatriot, Sir George Cartier, who had fostered the building of the Intercolonial railway which had linked the maritime provinces to upper Canada without crossing the boundary line of nations as he believed that all true Canadians wished to be as free from American ports as possible. Once the Canadian government has made the necessary arrangements here with regard to needed wharves, he said, St. John would be the main port of Canada and the sister ports of Montreal and Quebec would take pride in her position.

"There is room for more cities like Halifax, St. John, Quebec, Montreal and Toronto," he continued. "Canada is just beginning to grow. And in the growth of your port and your city you can count on the help and co-operation of Quebec. We are the children of the same family; in fact the St. John police and port officials who come here for the winter months and stop in Montreal for the summer months can never say which town they prefer." He closed with a hope of prosperity for the city and the harbor, which he declared one of the great assets of the Dominion of Canada.

A vote of thanks was later tendered both Mr. Gagne and Mayor Schofield, on motion of S. E. Elkin, M.P., by Chairman Peters.

A resolution of the executive committee calling for the assistance of the club in furthering the best interest of the provincial exhibition to be held in St. John in September, was passed.

The recommendation of the executive that one general meeting a month be held during the summer, was adopted.

Discussion arose between the chairman, H. R. McLellan, the secretary, William J. Brown, L. P. D. Tilley and Dr. Manning when it was suggested that a public speaker be brought to the city, under the auspices of the club to address a public gathering in the Imperial theatre. Among the names suggested were William Howard Taft, former president of the United States; Judge Fred G. Boyle, father of the juvenile court idea; Arthur Waldron Evans, speaker on industrial matters; and John Kendrick Bangs, the humorist. William Brown asked if there were no braver Canadians who could be secured and his argument was supported by L. P. D. Tilley and Dr. Manning. On voting, only two voices were in favor of the recommendation that the speakers be brought here.

**The Hotel Project.**

Percy W. Thomson, reporting on the new hotel project, said that Messrs. Dudley and O'Neill, the financiers of the plan, would be in the city next week and would go into the matter in detail. Letters patent have been issued for the incorporation of the Champlain Hotel Company, options on several suitable sites have been secured and a definite

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report would be available at an early date. The hotel will cost in excess of one million dollars.

C. H. Peters, in accepting this report, warned the members that if the project were to be a success and sufficient outside capital interested, there would have to be a local stock subscription of \$300,000 to \$375,000.

Colonel B. R. Armstrong reported progress for the team having charge of manufacturing, industrial and transportation matters.

**Reception for Visitors.**

T. P. Regan, reporting for the committee on the reception to the Imperial press delegation, outlined the programme which has already been published. The suggested shore dinner, which was to have been part of the St. John river cruise has been eliminated. N. R. Dean, secretary reporting the cost for a fish-food dinner up river being excessive. The city council had taken over the matter of a banquet in the Knights of Columbus hall, but it was decided to have the executive go into the matter of cost with the intention of bearing a share of it.

A. P. Paterson, reporting on the committee for arranging the souvenirs for the press delegates, said some progress had been made. He wished to have something turned out which would show the past history of the city, as well as its present resources and possibilities. The souvenir booklet he suggested would cost \$2 each. Mr. Regan thought there were booklets already issued by the Tourist Association, the Board of Trade and others which would do. Percy Thomson said the souvenir to have any effect should be given to the women and he suggested that the hundred women in the party be given each a silver vase, costing about \$4. "The women won't forget a souvenir like that as long as they live," he said, "and they won't let their men folk forget it either."

Mayor Schofield said that both the Simms factory and the Corona factory are preparing souvenirs for the visitors. After some discussion by L. P. D. Tilley, William Brown and R. Downing Paterson, it was decided to have the committee go into the matter of considering a souvenir menu for the dinner, along the lines followed for the banquet given to the visiting members of parliament last winter.

**Athletic Matters.**

A. M. Belding, reporting for athletic and playground matters in the city, said now the North End was now organized and would probably soon have its grounds, and that the West End, East End and South End associations were going in full swing. He asked the members to give full support to the associations which cater to their district, for personal support is the thing most needed now.

Mayor Schofield said that a subscription list had been open in City Hall for the last week for the purpose of securing the medals needed in the Marathon trials to be held on June 26, and only four subscriptions had been handed in. There is still \$160 needed.

Percy Thomson—"I'll put up whatever you're short." (Applause.)

Chairman Peters showed an engraving of the cup which is to be given by the club to the city senior baseball league. It measures seven and one-half inches high and will cost about \$75.

**For Thanksgiving Day.**

Mr. Thomson suggested that something be done to relieve the doubts of a Thanksgiving Day spent in St. John. He asked the club to promote a road race, field meet or other sport to amuse the people who have to stay in the city over the holiday. This matter was also taken up by Frank White, who said he could get a High School team of athletes from Boston to compete with the local boys under handicap.

H. R. McLellan said it would be possible to secure the use of the Exhibition grounds for an athletic meet.

T. H. Bullock wanted the aquatic sports, which proved such a success last year, maintained as an annual event.

The following new members were elected: George Knodell, H. G. Weeks, C. Percy Humphrey, G. R. Wetmore, Dr. W. W. Bonnumson, B. W. Purdy and Joseph Dwyer.

### GOING TO LONDON.

Winning, Man, M. J. A. W. H. Trueman, K.C., of the defense council at the recent strike leaders trial, will leave next Monday for London, where he will lay the appeal of the convicted strike leaders before the Privy Council. Mr. Trueman conferred with Russell at the penitentiary today.

### County Housing Board

ANY PARTIES CONTEMPLATING building a home in St. John County under the Housing Act are requested to deal direct with the County Housing Board and not with a second party. When applying for loans please submit your plan to us or come and examine our plans now ready at the office of F. Neil Brodie, Architect.

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ALEX. WILSON,  
Chairman.

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## SURPLUS STORES DISPOSED OF BY GOVERNMENT

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

Ottawa, May 14.—A total of \$6,047,010.12 in surplus stores was disposed of by the various government departments through the war purchasing commission between December 1, 1918 and March 31, 1920, according to a return tabled in the house today for Duncan Ross, West Middlesex.

The sale of goods commenced in December 1918 and practically all goods were offered for sale by tender. In many cases the offers were too low for acceptance and price lists had to be prepared and advertised. Sales had been made in this manner since the first of January.

## ROADS AGAIN ARE OPEN FOR TRAFFIC

Good news is coming in to automobile owners from various counties of the province. The roads in several counties, which have been closed to motor cars during the time the frost has been coming out of the ground, have been reopened to traffic, including those in Gloucester, Restigouche, St. John, Kings and in the parishes of Moncton, Shediac,

Dorchester and Sackville parishes of Westmorland. This development means that motorists can now travel from St. John to Moncton, Shediac, Sackville and through to Nova Scotia. The provincial government has been protecting the roads more rigidly than ever this spring and many of them are in better condition than ever before. Repair work will be started in a few weeks on various country roads and construction work on permanent highways under way, tenders for which are now out. The mud has dried up rapidly this week.



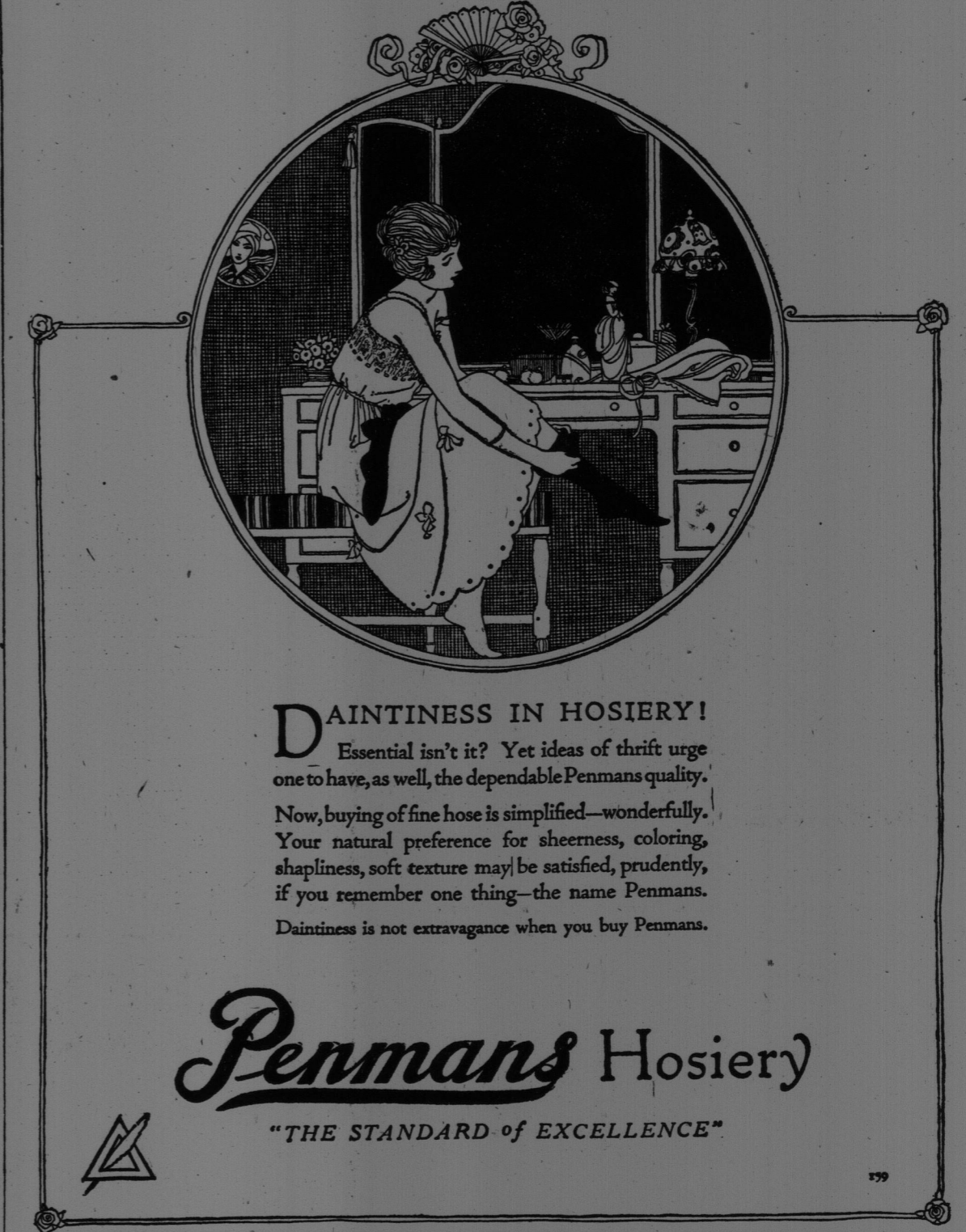
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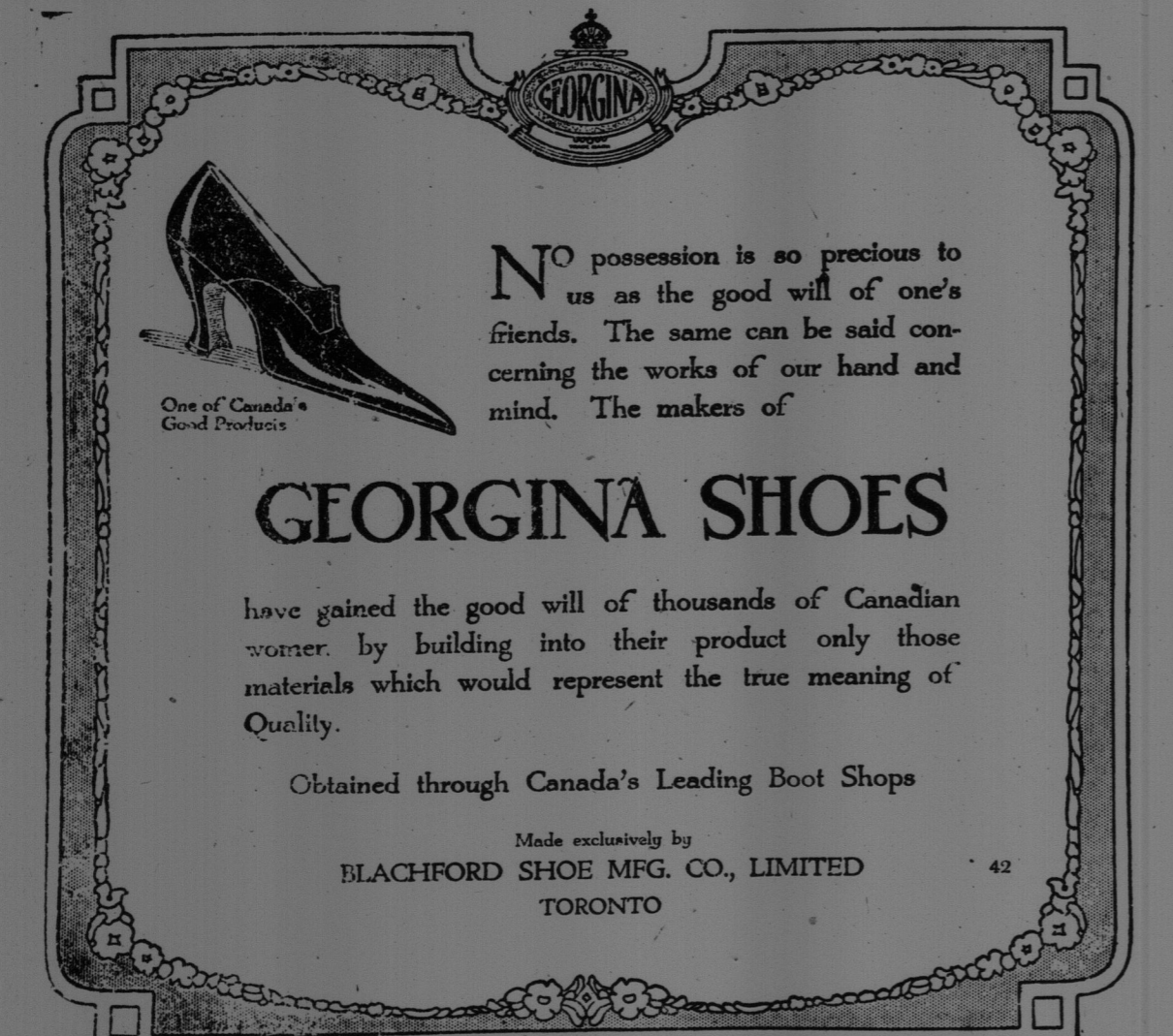
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