

SHOULD STUDY  
BRITISH SYSTEM

Speaker at Socialist Meeting  
Refers to Government by  
Commission as Yankee In-  
vention.

"If the patriotic Boosters' Club would study civic government in the Mother Country, instead of running after Yankee inventions and foreign cigars, there would be hope of a greater civic renaissance than any development of civic well being that is likely to be brought about as a result of the adoption of the commission form of government."

This was a remark made by Colin McKay in the course of an address before the Socialist meeting last evening in which he advocated the adoption of the board of control system, or a small commission to take charge of the executive direction of the city's affairs, while maintaining the board of aldermen in an advisory capacity.

He declared that the probability was that commissioners would want salaries of \$20,000 or \$25,000 in a few years, and that for a small city, such as the mayor and two controllers, giving a few hours each day to the city's business, would be able to give the city a good administration.

The British System.  
"It is a matter," he said, "of some surprise that in the local city of St. John, the council of the board of trade should have adopted the British system of representative government, a condemnation which involves a reflection upon the quality of the citizenship of the people represented and at the same time approves the immediate adoption of a Yankee invention, which requires for its successful operation, the most aggressive type of citizenship."

The commission form of government was developed as an heroic remedy for a desperate condition—a condition that had provoked a greater interest in civic affairs than had been heard of since about their own shortcomings, as about the Canadian board of control difficulties.

But the city problem is not a mere business proposition. The commission may readily run a city economically in contrast to the administration of aldermen who only devote a few hours a month to their duties, but an economical city is not always the best for a city. And the trouble is that a commission in St. John at the present stage of the game would be rather likely to be governed entirely by business considerations.

Glasgow's Example.  
"A few decades ago British cities were governed by aldermen and business interests, and were as corrupt as most American cities. But to bring about a reformation it was not found necessary to abolish the aldermen. Dr. Shaw of the Review of Reviews has called Glasgow the best governed city in the world, and Dr. Shaw is the greatest American authority on municipal matters. Will the Boosters claim that American cities governed by commission are better off than Glasgow, in the matter of municipal government? Can they point to an American city that is as well governed as Toronto? An expensive commission is not the only means of salvation for St. John. Here it would probably be an oligarchy, and to make a good balance sheet would sacrifice the interests of the future."

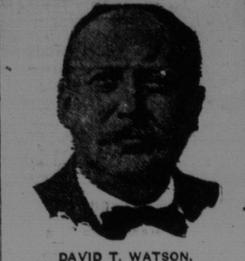
The Boosters' club make much of the initiative and referendum with the right of recall. Will their faith in democracy increase? It should be remembered that the Board of Trade has been a party to the maintenance of the property qualification for aldermen and for an arbitrary ordinance which would be a two-thirds vote of the council. If a deadlock arose the commission as well as the aldermen would be interested in getting the public to vote on the question, and the issues would be fairly placed before the people.

Another Plan.  
"A small commission of three, consisting of the Mayor and two controllers, and watched and aided by the City Council—at present the only civic debating club—would serve St. John's needs better than a commission. This system could be supplemented by the initiative and referendum and the right to recall applicable to aldermen as well as controllers. This commission's actions could only be overruled by a two-thirds vote of the council. If a deadlock arose the commission as well as the aldermen would be interested in getting the public to vote on the question, and the issues would be fairly placed before the people."

The Board of Trade had better give some study to the government of British cities," concluded Mr. McKay, "before it supports a Yankee invention. The city government of Glasgow has steadily opposed the business men's idea of government. It holds that the administration of public services must be governed by business considerations than the reduction of the tax rate. Are the commission cities of the States inspired by the noble idealism of British cities? The Boosters' faith in democracy increases. The opinions of the business interests on the commission form of government, but the plain people and the workmen have not been heard from, though doubtless they are satisfied that there has been an improvement over the old system of government by boodlers and the private corporations holding public franchises."

Diamond Dust.  
Two more players have been released by the New York American league club. Lester Channell, outfielder, from Fort Wayne, and Priest, shortstop, from Danville, Va., go to the Indianapolis club of the American Association.  
According to a special despatch from Cincinnati, Ohio, "Larry" McLean says that he is a candidate for the position of local manager of the St. Louis Browns and that he is ready to sign "Bugs" Raymond and "Rube" Waddell as secretaries.

Final Test of Standard Oil in  
U. S. Supreme Court at Last



DAVID T. WATSON.  
Associate counsel for the Oil Trust, and a former counsel for the government in cases against trusts. He is a Pittsburg lawyer.

Washington, Jan. 7.—The arguments which opened this week in the United States Supreme Court in the suit to dissolve the Standard Oil Trust is the beginning of the last chapter in the long fight against that most monopolistic of all monopolies, and the present case is a civil suit for dissolution brought against the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey, under the Sherman anti-trust act.

Prior to 1906, there had been many state attacks upon Standard Oil similar to the Indiana case. But in June of 1906 President Roosevelt determined to start the first great national prosecution of the monopoly and named Frank B. Kellogg of St. Paul and Charles B. Morrison of Chicago as special assistants to act with Milton D. Purdy, assistant attorney general. These men made a swift investigation of the trust, brought in an indictment on which was based the present suit. In their cursory speech, Kellogg and his assistants brought out the following accusations:

That 80 per cent of the refined oil used in the United States and exported from her shores was furnished by the Standard Oil Co.—prima facie evidence of its existence of monopoly.  
That as early as 1870 John D. Rockefeller, William Rockefeller, H. H. Rogers, Henry M. Flagler, John D. Archbold, Elmer H. Payne and Charles M. Pratt, came together in an agreement designed to suppress competition in the oil business.  
That between 1870 and 1882 many securities were made with oil companies.  
That by 1882 these seven men had stock enough in oil companies to control the operation of the industry, and competition had been suppressed.

That in 1882 the Ohio supreme court decreed that the trusteeship of the seven names—the first trust in the world's modern sense—was an unlawful combination.  
That as a result in the years between 1882 and 1899, the seven, headed by Rockefeller, pretending to have accomplished a dissolution of the trust were in reality operating as they had before the Ohio decision.  
That in 1899 the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey, which had been previously organized, became a holding company to evade the Ohio decision, the holding company acting the trustee of subsidiary stock instead of the original seven men.  
That the New Jersey company's stock was raised from \$10,000,000 to \$100,000,000 and that there was added to the company's charter the clause empowering it to buy and hold stock of subsidiary companies.  
On this information the government at the instance of former Attorney Gen. Moody filed suit against the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey, its seven owners and about 70 subsidiary concerns in the United States circuit court at St. Louis, Nov. 15, 1906. The government prayed that the trust be declared illegal and dissolved, and that the subsidiary concerns be enjoined from paying dividends to the parent corporation.  
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The rich generals of the oil industry and the crushed, broken drivers of single competing oil wagons flocked to the hearing to tell their stories. Then followed himself was held before the New York referee.  
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FRANK B. KELLOGG,  
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EARL GREY IS  
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Governor General Makes Call  
At Oyster Bay—Sir Edward  
Morris Does Not Anticipate  
Trouble.

New York, Jan. 8.—Earl Grey, the Governor General of Canada, arrived here Saturday from Ottawa, and late in the afternoon motored down to Oyster Bay, where he was the guest Saturday night of Col. and Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt at Sagamore Hill.

"My visit to New York," said Earl Grey, "is purely a social one." At the hotel Plaza, where the Earl spent the night, he said he would be unable to accept an invitation of President Taft to attend the state dinner to be given at the White House for the representatives of the Dominion, who are in Washington negotiating with Secretary Knox regarding the proposed new reciprocity treaty between the United States and Canada.

Others in New York on Saturday were Sir Edward Morris, Premier of Newfoundland; Sir E. Aylesworth, Dominion minister of justice, and Hon. L. P. Brodeur, minister of marine and fisheries. They will confer with Secretary Knox tomorrow in Washington on the new regulations prescribed for the North Atlantic.

"In view of the decision reached at The Hague," said Sir Edward, "it is our purpose to learn if the United States seriously objects to the fisheries regulations which have been promulgated by Newfoundland and Canada. We hope to be able to narrow down the issues even if we cannot reach a definite agreement. We are prepared to meet the government at Washington in a friendly spirit."

It is possible that our conference with Secretary Knox may make it unnecessary for the commission to meet to pass upon the questions at issue.

Officials at Montreal Receive  
Letters Telling of Plot To  
Blow Up City Hall And Arch-  
iepiscopal Palace.

Montreal, Jan. 8.—During the present month the Archbishoppal Palace and the city hall are to be blown up by anarchists. Warning letters to this effect have been received by Mayor Guerin, Archbishop Bruchet and Chief Provincial Detective Carpenter. The warning letter of his worship read as follows:  
"Two anarchists of the city will blow up the city hall and the Archbishoppal Palace in the course of the month. They have compromised papers with them. Their names are: Nap Thierreau, 621 St. Augustin and F. Tella, 829 St. Hubert."  
The communication is signed by F. Laporte, trader. The other letters are to the same effect, the wording being slightly changed to suit the circumstances.  
Chief Carpenter last night said: "All three missives are written in French and are in the same handwriting, which seems slightly disguised. The writing is cramped and the writer apparently is not accustomed to the quill."  
For Young Men.  
At Zion Church last evening, Rev. Wm. Lawson preached an eloquent sermon to a large congregation from the text, "Go, Speak to that young man." He dealt with the importance of the place and influence of the young man who, because of his youthful energy and enthusiasm, had greater powers for good or evil than others. He urged upon the young men of the church, and why special efforts should be made to provide means for improving the mind and the soul, and the great influence in stimulating the mind was religion.

Marriage Illegal.  
There was a mocked trial in the St. John Law School on Saturday evening before Recorder Baxter, sitting in judgment on the facts of the case were as follows: John Sarpedon and Myra Ankette, Greeks, desired to marry and not wanting to be married by any priest save of their own faith, had a priest of the Greek Church come on from Boston to officiate. He arrived and performed the ceremony, but was not registered or authorized to solemnize the marriage in the province. John Sarpedon died intestate and his brother Peter, claimed his estate as next of kin to the exclusion of his children, claiming the marriage was not legal. Porter, '11, McLean, '11 and Conlon, '11 appeared for the appellant and Robb, '11 and Teed, '11 for the respondents. After hearing the eloquent arguments of the counsel in the case the judge decided for the appellant, holding that the marriage was illegal.  
Acknowledgement.  
The following subscriptions are gratefully acknowledged by the board of management of the St. John Protestant Orphans Home: F. P. Starr, \$25; Misses Murray, \$50; E. A. Goodwin, \$10; Raymond & Doherty, \$10; Geo. C. Weldon, \$10; J. M. Humphrey & Co., \$10; Andrew Malcolm, \$5; J. A. Seeds, \$5; Mrs. W. H. Barnaby, \$5; Schofield Paper Co., \$25; Nagle Lumber Co., \$2; H. A. Powell (supplemental), \$2.50; Mrs. Alfred Porter, \$2; H. C. Schofield, \$1; Sergt. G. R. Baxter, \$1; "T. A. S. E." \$1.

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A Customer's Reasonable Wish is This Store's Pleasure  
**F. A. DYKEMAN'S**  
Slightly Soiled  
**WOOL BLANKETS**  
By someone's carelessness they were packed in a case without a lining and they are slightly marked on the folds, consequently they have to be sold