

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 31, 1912.

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ST. JOHN LIBERALS

The St. John city and county Liberal conventions will be held this evening. The delegates who will nominate the candidates realize that it is their duty to name strong men, and the more so because their opponents have nominated a weak ticket. There are good men from among whom to choose the four standard bearers for the city and two for the county. It is not with a feeling of hopelessness that the Liberals of St. John have entered upon this contest. Evidence is daily accumulating which proves that the Flemming government is steadily losing ground in the estimation of the people, and that the more critically its acts are scrutinized the more generally it is condemned. St. John tonight should send a message of good cheer to Mr. Copp, and to the party in every constituency in the province, by naming men who will carry the banner of victory here as it will be carried in so many counties by the strong men already in the field or to be nominated within the next few days. If the friends of the government nourished at any time the hope that Mr. Flemming would have a walk-over, they have been sadly undeceived. There is one point which should be made as clear as plain language will make it. The Tory press is asserting that this is not a fight between Liberals and Conservatives and is quoting the St. John Globe as an exponent of the views of the Liberal party. Articles from the Globe are printed in large type, and with great glee, the object being to convince, if possible, other constituencies that there is a division of opinion on provincial politics among the Liberals of St. John. The stories in St. John know better, and the Liberals should take pains to make the facts perfectly clear in every other constituency.

THE VALLEY RAILWAY

If it had been the desire and the intention of Mr. Flemming to have the Valley Railway constructed from St. John to Grand Falls, to connect there with the Grand Trunk Pacific, and thus secure through connections and ensure competitive rates, why did not his government provide that work on the Grand Falls section should begin at the same time as on the other sections? Why, if he were sincere in his professed desire to have the whole line constructed, did he call upon his followers in the House of Assembly to vote down a motion which would have compelled the beginning of work on the Grand Falls section along with the others?

If Mr. Flemming intended to have bonds issued for the construction of the whole road, why should he make two bills of a cherry? Why not have the whole bond issue made at once, instead of floating about five-sixths and leaving the other sixth for a later date? What financier would recommend such a course as that? Does not the whole course of Mr. Flemming in connection with this railway, since the time when there was talk of an electric railway along the valley between two points on the Canadian Pacific Railway, justify the general suspicion that he has been playing with this question, or having a greater regard for some other interests than those of the people of the St. John Valley?

This Valley Railway will cost a large amount of money. The expenditure could only be justified by making the railway serve the interests of the people to the fullest extent. That can only be done by making it part of a through line with Intercolonial operation from St. John to Grand Falls. All portions of the province are interested in this project because the whole province is pledged in its support. The safe thing to do is to hand over the whole matter to a new government, which will see that the Liberal policy and a through line with Intercolonial operation is carried out to the letter.

A GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE

Has the present provincial government carried out the pledges made by Mr. Hazen and Mr. Flemming before they came into power?

Does the manifesto of Premier Flemming indicate that if returned to power his government will pursue such a progressive policy as the forward movement in the province demands?

Upon the answer to these two questions rests the claim of the government to popular support. If these questions cannot be answered in the affirmative the government should be defeated.

Let us consider first some of the pledges which were made prior to 1908. One was that all public works would be put up for tender. Everybody knows that this pledge was broken immediately, in connection with repairs to the Suspension Bridge at St. John, and that it has been continually broken in connection with public works throughout the province. Another pledge was that the government would be carried on without political bias. This pledge was broken in the federal elections of 1908, and continually in the administration of affairs since then. "No Liberal need apply" has been the watchword. A third pledge related to highways, and everybody knows how brazenly that pledge has been broken with the result that the roads, after four years, are as bad or worse than before. The money that should have gone on the roads went into the pockets of political partisans. Mr. Flemming was also pledged to have a survey and valuation of the crown lands. Nothing of the sort has been done, although this valuable asset has been decreasing in value because the government has encouraged the cutting of

under-sized timber. With regard to agriculture a progressive policy was promised. The performance has been limited to the appointment of salaried officials, and the man down on the farm is unable to discover that the conditions under which he labors have been at all improved. There was also to be a more aggressive immigration policy, but the number of new settlers has not overtaken the number of natives leaving the province for the west. Much more was to be done for education by the Hazen government than by its predecessors, but we search in vain for evidence of that generosity which its increased revenue would have justified the government in extending in that direction. In short, the government has failed utterly to redeem its pledges. We all remember Mr. Flemming's gloomy picture of the increase in the public debt and his fierce demand if the people wanted another million dollars added to the debt in five years. His government has added more than a million dollars in four years, and the last financial year was marked by a deficit of \$50,000, to say nothing of the enormous increase in the liabilities of the province resulting from the legislation of this government.

But if the record of the past is not encouraging, what of the outlook for the future? Mr. Flemming promises three things. He will carry out his ready-made farm scheme, which at most would not settle 100 farmers in the province, and would settle these under conditions grossly unfair to struggling native farmers beside them. He promises in a vague way encouragement of the erection of pulp and paper mills. In the third place he promises to try to get more money from Ottawa. The province had just got an increased subsidy from Ottawa when the Hazen-Flemming government went into power. They had that much more money to spend. The manner in which they have spent it does not encourage the belief that the public would derive much benefit if the amount received from Ottawa were increased.

When the immigration congress met in Fredericton there was a general feeling that Mr. Flemming would see his opportunity and with his government take the lead in a great forward movement. Instead of doing so he fed the delegation which interviewed him with vague promises and empty phrases, and his ready-made farm scheme falls so far short of the expectations of that great and representative gathering, one of the most notable in the history of the province, that one wonders how a premier, about to appeal to the people, could so utterly fail to grasp a great opportunity.

The time has come for a change at Fredericton, and for a government which will be not only clear-minded enough to interpret the feelings and wishes of the people but broad and progressive enough to give expression to them in constructive legislation. Mr. Copp comes before the people with a broad and progressive platform, and he is supported by able men as candidates in every constituency. The people may safely entrust the direction of affairs to the Liberal leader and the colleagues he will choose, and await with perfect confidence the carrying out of such a progressive policy as will put the government in its rightful place at the head of the forward movement which is to give new life to agriculture and other industries, while at the same time it conserves the interests and welfare of the people.

The people of New Brunswick have a great opportunity, and a serious responsibility rests upon them. Upon their verdict of June 20th will depend whether the province is to go forward or to have its resources depleted, its revenue squandered and its debt increased, as has been the case during the past four years.

In Moncton the question of treating advanced cases of tuberculosis is receiving attention. There is no great need for a sanatorium in St. John, and provision for its erection should be made with further delay.

The Standard reply to Mr. Veniot's exposures of the government by hinting that Mr. Veniot is not a truthful man. At all events Hon. Dr. Landry has not yet convicted him of falsehood, nor broken the force of his criticism.

World-wide sympathy goes out to General Booth in the hour of his great grief. For he mourns not because he is blind, but because that blindness lessens his efficiency in a life-work devoted to human welfare. General Booth is one of the world's great men.

Although the statement has been shown to be false, the Standard again asserts that the opposition voted against the construction of the Valley Railway. What really happened was that the government called upon its followers to vote down an amendment which would have ensured the construction of the line clear through to Grand Falls.

The Standard this morning devotes a great deal of space to the Valley Railway bond issue, and succeeds in making it clear, in fact openly confesses, that the amount realized on the issue will not provide for a railway from St. John to Grand Falls. That is enough to say about it. That is what the people want to know. Mr. Flemming and his government are exposed. The story about a later bond issue for a small amount is either an afterthought, or it reveals the incompetence of the government. In either case the government deserves to be condemned.

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN N. B., FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1912

KING COLE
TEA
You'll like the flavor

IN LIGHTER VEIN

THAT'S SO.
As soon as a married woman gets 50 saved up she becomes oppressed by the thought that she is merely accumulating a fortune for the second wife to spend.
—Louisville Courier-Journal.

GOING UP.

The packers buy beef on the hoof. And the rest of us buy beef on the hoof.

HAPPY MAN.

Binks—"Where does Perkins get so much money to blow? He isn't wealthy, is he?"
Jinks—"No, but his wife makes her own hats."

THRILLING RACING DRAMA.

Act I.—Five men break a horse.
Act II.—They enter the house in "a race."
Act III.—The horse breaks five men.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

REASON WHY.

"Why don't you give your wife an allowance?" "I did once, and she spent it before I could borrow it back."—Washington Herald.

RURAL JOURNALISM.

"Why do you take this country newspaper?"
"It just suits my wife's ideas of journalism."
"How?"
"The front page, as you see, is entirely given over to love stories and advertisements."

ALL IMPORTANT.

"And you wouldn't begin your holidays on Friday?"
"Not me."
"I can't understand how you can have any faith in such a silly superstition."
"No superstition about it. Saturday's pay day."
Citizen (to house agent)—I thought you said there was a charming view from the front windows? Why, there are only houses to be seen.

House Agent—So there is a charming view, sir. In the house opposite live the most beautiful widow you ever clapped eyes on, and she's always at the window.

Recently an Ayrshire minister said to his servant one morning: "Mary, you must be very careful of the coal; our stock is running low, and there is no saying when we may be able to get more."
"Yes, sir," said Mary humbly. "A'm savin' every cin'er."
"Ah," said her master. "I have been trying to do that for forty years."

"Tommy, did you have a good time at the party?" "Yes, mother." "Why didn't you stay until it was over?" "What was the use, mother? I couldn't eat any more."

"Mister," inquired a tramp, "would you contribute a shilling to help to purify your thriving city?" "What's the idea?" "A shilling will buy me a ticket to the next town."

"I say, old man, did I ever tell you about the awful fright I got on my wedding day?" "S-s-s, no man should speak that way about his wife."

WAS A GREAT SUFFERER

FOR FIVE YEARS

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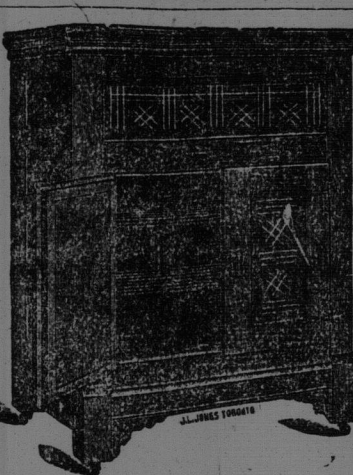
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Grape Fruit 10c. each 3 for 25c.
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AMHERST AND PARROBORO.
Amherst News—Captain George B. Newcombe of Parroboro, is busily engaged at the present time in promoting a motor passenger service between Amherst and Parroboro and the News understands that the stock is being taken up by the business people of Parroboro. It is proposed to put two motors on the service between here and that town, the motors to leave Parroboro at certain fixed hours and when same in Amherst. There is no doubt but that such a service would pay during the summer months.

AMHERST INDUSTRY.
The council of the Amherst Board of Trade held a meeting last week to discuss the proposition of another large industry for the town. N. D. Ackles has been in negotiations with the concern for some time and a committee of the council was appointed to meet with those interested, trades.

NATIONALIST GETS JOB AT SHEDIAC

Borden Government Ousts Good Man to Make Robidoux Collector of Customs

(Moncton Transcript)
A. M. Leger, collector of customs at Shediac, for several years past, has been dismissed for alleged political reasons, but really to give a job to Ferdinand Robidoux, the editor of The Moniteur Acadicien, who probably needs it worse than Mr. Leger. The difference, however, between the two men is that Mr. Leger filled the position ably and Mr. Robidoux formerly did not.

To remove Mr. Leger for alleged political reasons and appoint a Tory editor to hold the job and still continue editing a Tory newspaper, is about as fair an example of political consistency as might be expected from the party to which the Minister man belongs.

This is the gentleman who, at the last election, represented the extreme nationalist view in this section, and who published in his paper slanders upon the empire's navy, present and prospective. Probably in the whole of political literature issued during the dominion general elections there were no more offensive articles published than those issued by Mr. Robidoux in The Moniteur Acadicien. He is now rewarded by being given the position of collector of customs at Shediac.

IN BUSY AMHERST.
Amherst News—There is a decided scarcity of labor in the town of Amherst this summer. Wood and stone contractors are in a position to employ more men than they can obtain at present and there is an abundance of work for job carpenters. It is almost a matter of impossibility to find a man to do repair work at the present time.

HORSES HIGH.
Sussex Record—Horses are away up in price this year. There is a good demand for horses and outside buyers have been over the ground in King looking for drivers and general purpose horses.

THURSDAY HALF HOLIDAY.
There is an agitation in Fredericton to have a Thursday half holiday during the summer.

The majority of the Jews in Tripoli are engaged in the jewellery and tailoring trades.

CHILDREN'S BUTTON AND LACED BOOTS

Made on the Approved Broad Toe Last that allows the foot to grow naturally.
Beautiful Kid, Tan and Calf Leathers.
Nice Fit and Finish.
Will hold their shape and stand re-pairing.
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Sizes 4 to 7-1/2, \$1.00, 1.25, 1.40, 1.50, 1.65, 1.75, 1.90, 2.00.
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