

ST. JOHN SEMI-WEEKLY SUN

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NO. 73

St. John, Sept. 26th, '06.

CONFERENCE WILL NOT ALTER MINISTERIAL TERM

MONTREAL, Sept. 24.—Yesterday morning Dr. McCoy, representative of the Methodist Episcopal church, south, preached in St. James church in the morning and Dr. Cleaver in the evening. The congregations were very large, that in the evening numbering two thousand six hundred. Maritime preachers in city pulpits were the Rev. D. Johnson, the new editor of the Wesleyan, who preached in the Mountain street church, Dr. Hearty at the Eastern church, John Craig and Benjamin Hill. The Rev. Wm. Brown conducted an open air service on Wellington street.

The course of study committees recommended that the probationers' terms be changed from three years and circuit work and two years at college as at present to three years college and two in circuit work. The committee on discipline brought in an important recommendation advising the formation of catechism classes in each congregation. That these classes be put in charge of suitable leaders who shall teach them a prescribed course of study and shall take particular care of their spiritual growth, considering them as members of the church. That in the course of time and upon testimony of their fitness, the members of such classes shall be received into full connection with the church.

The discipline committee recommended that a chapter edition of the ritual be issued for use in the congregations, especially in the baptismal and communion services, which are not as popular in their use as they should be. The opinion was expressed that the failure of the congregations to take part in the services of the church is most deplorable. It was thought that a cheap manual containing the liturgical services would encourage the congregations to take part in public worship. On motion of Dr. Howard Sprague it was resolved to issue a large edition of the ritual for the use of the minister. On motion of Dr. Allison it was ordered that the ritual be bound up with the hymn book, so as to give the people easy access to the parts they are required to use.

The ministry committee recommended that each annual conference may appoint a board for city mission work with power to appeal for funds from the support of city missionaries. The local city mission board to have control of expenditures of the city and the time limit shall not apply to city missionaries. The recommendation was adopted.

The question of horse-keep came up for interesting discussion. Memorials have come in from all over the conference concerning the issue. It was resolved to raise the charge for horse-keep to one hundred dollars.

Motion that it be made eighty and seventy-five dollars were voted down. The clerical representatives of the missionary committee are Justice Hickman, Young Langford, Briggs and Moore. The laymen are Flavelle, Bowell, Keenleyside, McLaren, Cushing and Shaw.

In the afternoon an address was delivered by M. Takagi, delegate from the Japan Methodist church, who spoke at length on the ecclesiastical situation in that country.

The report from the committee on itinerancy and transfers was given. The memorial asking for exemption from the pastoral term limit for Elm street church, Toronto, was not passed.

The memorial asking for the abolition of the time limit throughout the entire church were taken up.

The Rev. J. T. Pitcher moved that the annual conference have the privilege of extending the pastoral term indefinitely. Dr. Williams seconded it. These gentlemen contended that the spirit of Methodism never destroys the work by the machinery, that when a minister has to move in a brief time the work, especially in cities and towns, suffers; that it takes the minister two or three years to get acquainted with the work, and that the frequent changes hinder the regular progression of the work.

Dr. Sparling supported the amendment with much pleasantness and excellent argument. He held that the

present narrow limitation is a great hindrance.

Dr. Jackson held that the motion would result in the abolition of itinerancy and the selection of the best clergy for the picked men. He maintained that the three-year term was the best. He never preached old sermons. He thought that this conference was debating an "old" issue. One man touches one type of Christian, another touches another, and under the changing pastorate the greater number of people are touched.

The debate grew general and warm. The Rev. Mr. Spear obtaining the floor argued in favor of the change and wished the question thoroughly threshed out. Scores of men had told him that the time limit ought to be removed. The change had proved a good one in the American church. Mr. John George spoke against any change. He believed in the grand old Methodist usage that had placed her at the front. Rev. Mr. Walcott thought the time had come to take the proposed step as a step in advance.

The short term system is not working well in many localities, conditions had changed since the church was a purely evangelistic church. We are now a teaching church. We must train the children, and to do that we need a wise guide for them to follow during their childhood years. The short term system produces short term preachers. Many men are using their old sermons term after term.

Mr. Tait opposed the change. He said that organization does not become defunct when a minister leaves a circuit. The work goes on. The work is done by the church which had the money would keep the good men and leave the rest for others. This, he said, would be the best thing for the church. Mr. Taylor of Montreal spoke in advocacy of the abolition of the time limit. He said that a quarterly board is the best judge of a minister's fitness to remain or not to remain. Let those churches that want a change have a change.

Mr. Lovering, a layman of fifty years' standing, spoke as a countryman against a change. He was satisfied with things as they are. He said that the cities take their turn in the poorer field.

Dr. Hearty spoke on the question and opposed any alteration. He thought that our people would be greatly disappointed at any change. We are, he said, envied by other churches. They change their ministers oftener than we. The Nova Scotia conference had passed a resolution strongly favoring a continuation of past conditions. Let well enough alone.

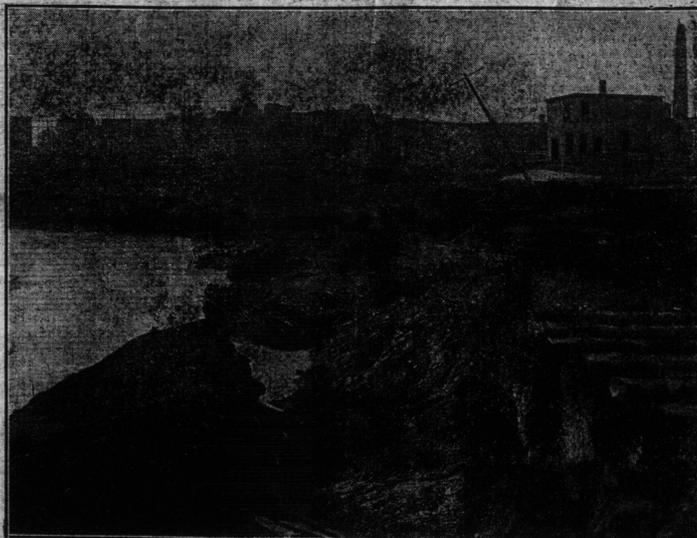
The closure was put and carried. Feeling ran high, shouts of "ag" were heard. The vote stood against any change by a large majority, but there seems to be some increase in the number of those who favor a change.

The question of starting a new paper in the West was introduced again and was favored by Rev. F. D. Stacey. Dr. Sutherland opposed the idea.

Mr. Rowell proposed the appointment of a Winnipeg corresponding editor to the Guardian. It was seconded by Dr. Sutherland.

The question of connexional papers proved a difficult one. Winnipeg, Regina, and other places wanted it. The Western men voted in a body for a Western paper. Mr. Rowell's motion was lost by one vote. The report favoring the establishment of a Western paper carried.

VIEW OF UNION STREET, WEST, SHOWING DESTRUCTION BY DREDGING



The picture above was taken to show the effects of the landslide on Union street, west end. The line of telegraph poles give an idea where Union street formerly ran. The picture is taken looking south from the remains of the C. P. R. track.

The ground has now caved right in up to the Shore Line station, which is the light colored building prominent in the picture. At high tide the water lies right below the front of the building. The smaller dark colored building next to it is Sleeth & Quinlan's marble works, which is in even a more precarious situation, the front of the building being all undermined and the whole structure likely to collapse.

The site of No. 3 crib, which is now ready, runs out into the harbor beginning at what remains of Union street and slightly to the left of the Shore Line station. The site of No. 2 crib begins where No. 1 ends and stretches further out into the harbor. No. 3 crib will be placed next to Union street, stretching out from a little to the right of Sleeth & Quinlan's marble works to a continuation of it. The spaces between the two lines of cribs will be filled in with piling, and upon it the warehouses will be erected. When the Beaver commences further operations on the site of No. 3 it is expected that still more of the street will sink into the harbor and be dredged out.

It is only a few days since the last remaining track, running close to the front of the Shore Line station, had to be abandoned. The C. P. R. wish to replace their track on trestle work, but wish first to see what damage the dredging on the No. 3 site is likely to do.

Pre secretary of the I. O. F., Foster, managing director of the Union Trust Co., and Matthew Wilson, director, were acknowledged by agreement to be owners of one-half interest in the Foster-Fowler option book of the Great West Land Co., and the New Canada Farm and Nova Scotia lands at a figure which would after paying cost net to Foster, McGillivray and Wilson \$95,000. With this \$95,000 additional stock which Messrs. Foster and Fowler demanded when they found the land had been turned over at a profit of 50 cents per acre, made \$100,000 advance in the price on the deal. Foster offered to the company to provide that ten shares each were to go to him and his associates Wilson and McGillivray.

Mr. Shepley suggested in the final settling up of the transaction it appeared that these gentlemen apparently allotted themselves over and above the stock placed in trust some 37 1/2 shares, of which Mr. Foster is credited with receiving 12 1/2, the other two dividing the balance. Mr. Foster produced a number of documents asked for but refused to produce the stock book of the Great West Land Co., and Mr. Shepley refrained from pressing for it at this stage of the proceedings.

When noon adjournment came Stevenson had not completed his story of the transaction by which Mr. Fowler, Rufus Pope, W. H. Bennett, M. P. A. LeFevre, M. P., and others purchased 200,000 acres of land in the Northwest which was turned over at profits of \$1 per acre to a syndicate composed of Foster, McGillivray and Wilson, who turned the land over to the Great West Land Co., a subsidiary concern of the Union Trust Co., at a further advance of 50 cents per acre. This is the transaction which was aired in debate at the last session of parliament, suit having been entered by Messrs. Bennett and LeFevre, who contend that their colleague in parliament, George W. Fowler, and their former colleague in the house, Rufus Pope, had not divided up the profits of the deal fairly.

Later in the day, with the assistance of documents produced by Hon. George E. Foster, secretary of the Great West Land Co., the story was completed. It was shown that Col. McGillivray, su-

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FORESTERS' FUNDS HELD IN QUEER SPECULATIONS

Hon. George E. Foster, Geo. W. Fowler and Others Involved With Officials in Peculiar Land Deal, for Which Trust Funds Formed the Basis—Foster Refuses to Produce Books.

(Special to the Sun.)

TORONTO, Sept. 24.—Dr. Oronhyatekha's evidence was closed temporarily before the insurance commission this morning in order to allow Mr. Shepley to carry on his investigation into land speculations undertaken with funds of the order, the details of which were not known to the chief ranger.

Prior to leaving the stand Oronhyatekha admitted under pressure that Hon. Mr. Foster had as manager of the Union Trust Co. made investments contrary to the instructions of the directors.

Elliott F. Stevenson, supreme councillor of the I. O. F., who has recently been giving his personal attention to the financial interest of the I. O. F. on the Union Trust board, testified that enormous sums had been looked up in lands in the Northwest. He related a story of the reconveyance of lands acquired by the Montague syndicate and told of another syndicate which he had been invited to associate himself with, formed to speculate in property with funds to be borrowed from the Union Trust Co. Mr. McCormick, ex-M. P. P., and Irvin and Geo. W.

Fowler, M. P., were interested in this syndicate, together with some of the supreme court executive and Mr. Foster.

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Style is very important, but many suits and overcoats depend upon their style entirely for selling; the quality is such that they turn shabby before they are worn a week, and then the style is not worth much. Quality first is our motto; then we see that it is made in the correct prevailing style. Every body gets the worth of their money here.

New Fall Suits \$3.95 to \$26.00
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THE EXHIBITION STATEMENT SHOWS SURPLUS OF \$2,849.85

This is the Largest Balance in the History of St. John Exhibitions—Manager Milligan and Committee of Directors to Visit Halifax for Suggestions.

The executive of the Exhibition Association met last evening in their offices in the Canada Permanent Building. The object of the meeting was the recitation of the financial statement, which shows a surplus up to date of \$2,849.85. After deducting the estimated expenditures of the coming year and the estimated amount of bills yet to be paid there will be a balance on hand of over \$1,949.85.

In the statement for 1904 the amount of \$1,014.40 is brought forward from the annual meeting on December 31st, 1903, and its surplus amounted to \$1,238.91, really a deficit of \$273.39 on the running of the fair. This year's surplus is the largest in the history of local exhibitions.

Those present at the meeting were: President A. O. Skinner in the chair, J. O'Brien, Alex. Macaulay, R. B. Emerson, Geo. A. Allan, W. H. Estabrook, with the manager and secretary.

The secretary read the financial statement, which was fully discussed by the members of the executive, and it was decided that the statement be sent to the government and given to the newspapers for the information of the public. Major W. C. Magee was appointed to audit the financial statement.

Manager Milligan was instructed to attend the Dominion exhibition in Halifax, and to report in detail any improvement in our methods as suggested by that exhibition.

T. H. Estabrook, D. J. McLaughlin and R. B. Emerson were appointed a committee to visit the buildings and report any improvements suggested themselves for the next exhibition, with any criticisms they might have to offer on this exhibition.

The manager was instructed to prepare a detailed statement of all the improvements used for this year's exhibition, with quantities, prices, amounts, if any left over, with any criticisms he might wish to make regarding the advisability of making any or all of these forms in the future.

The president suggested that it would be well for another exhibition to have three superintendents in place of one, in carrying out the buildings, and in carrying out for each exhibition, and that it might be advisable to erect a bandstand outside, in the rear of the industrial hall, for band concerts in future exhibitions.

A letter was read from the secretary of the Women's Local Council conveying to the exhibition management the thanks of the council for the unfailing courtesy shown its members in preparing and conducting the women's departments.

A motion was passed instructing the manager to convey to the Women's Council the Exhibition Association's appreciation of the good work done by their members, and for the splendid success of the women's departments in the exhibition of 1906.

The following is a comparative statement of receipts and expenditures for the last two exhibitions:

RECEIPTS	
	1906. 1904.
Gates and tickets	\$1,568.58
Season tickets	1,845.00
Exhibitors and attendants	486.00
General admission	5,142.92
Large amusement	
hall	1,017.75
Small amusement	
hall	565.75
Grand stand	241.00
Boxes	412.40
Entries and special privileges	3,074.15
Special prizes	2,480.66
Five shares stock C. F. B. Rowe	115.00
Advertising in prize lists	25.00
Interest 'B' of N.B. From I. O. F. coupons (estimated)	640.00
Sundry amounts	781.40
City grant	57.20
Prov. Gov't grant	1,000.00
	1,068.50
	130.00
	3,000.00
	5,000.00
	\$36,022.62
Bal. on hand Dec. 31, 1906	\$38,145.10
	1,701.40
	\$31,846.60
EXPENDITURES	
	1906. 1904.
Prices and judges	\$ 1,006.00
Grounds and buildings	2,202.15
Labor	3,355.30
Police	472.12
Salaries and office expenses	2,098.50
	2,653.26

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