

PROGRESS.

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AFTER THE BIG BATTLE.

SOME OF THE "FEA" THAT INTERFERED IN MANY CASES.

There was very little of the organization necessary to the success of an election—analysis of the vote shows strange results in the different wards.

If Mr. Charles McLaughlan had been as strong in the west and south ends as he was in the north of the city he would have been mayor for the next year, or—

If Mr. Edward Sears had looked after the north end as well as the south and west he would have been a sure winner.

It is easy to say "if" after an election. The two defeated gentlemen mentioned might as well shake hands and say if we had tossed coppers to see who would oppose Mr. Robertson we would not have been on the wrong side of the count.

It was a good deal of hustling on Tuesday, but it was hustling without guidance. None of the candidates had that organization which is necessary to success at an election. Perhaps as the "man in office" that of Mayor Robertson was the best. There is always something talismanic about the party in power. Many people vote for it because they have done so before. Possession is nine points of the law and the electors in many cases take this absurd view of a mayoralty contest.

An analysis of the vote shows some strange and unexpected results in the different wards. Robertson beat McLaughlan more than two to one in Guy's and was beaten 12 in Brook's by the same gentleman while Sears beat both of them in that place. Then in Sidney, Dukes, Queens and Kings wards Robertson led the poll while in Wellington, Prince and Victoria Mr. Sears had the same honor. In Dufferin, Lansdowne, and Lorne McLaughlan took his turn at leading and Sears captured Stanley.

One of the surprises of the day was the vote of Mr. Allan. He developed greater strength than it was thought he would, because he was late in the field and though no stranger to civic affairs, a new man in the fight. Combinations accounted for much on Tuesday and Mr. Allan was fortunate in having many in his favor though not enough, for Mr. McArthur was more than 500 votes ahead of him and Mr. Parry more than 300.

If another vote had been polled for I. E. Smith he would have beaten Mr. Baskin a smooth thousand. As it is he has to be satisfied with 999 majority—enough perhaps to convince Mr. Baskin that the memories of the people are not worn out and capable of being revived at times.

It was the "A. P. A." or "Knights of the Golden Sword" or Rod or what not who defeated John B. Hington Macaulay Baxter last year then that mysterious and powerful body must be a few votes stronger this year than it was last for Mr. Stackhouse's majority was about 25 more than upon that occasion. Probably however it is not fair to give the credit of defeating Mr. Baxter to any particular body even so mysterious as this suspected and invisible organization, but to permit the citizens in general to take a share of an action which must be in the general interests of the city.

Mr. Tuft's victory over Mr. Vanwart was not a surprise, because the name of Tuft has been associated in the past in civic affairs a great deal. Mr. Vanwart is well known in the business portion of the city and he has good reason to be satisfied that he got 1678 votes.

His brother grocer Mr. Dunlop had a few more than that, 1721, but not enough to elect him over Mr. Macrae who has the distinction of being the second lawyer at the board. Mr. Dunlop made an excellent canvass and polled a better vote than many of his friends expected. He has not been before the public in the same way as his opponent whose name is familiar as one who takes a part in politics and in the law courts.

Mr. McPherson's walk over with Mr. Kickham was no surprise. The latter came out nomination day and the people had hardly time to get acquainted with the fact much less make up their minds before voting was upon them. The vote stood 2802 to 1176.

Mr. Seaton again went down before Alderman Robinson. No energetic canvass was made, but in his own ward Mr. Seaton was 19 votes ahead. Wards like Kings, Queens and Prince were strongly in favor of Mr. Robinson and gave him his majority. Alderman Millidge had the closest call of the day. When the votes were counted he

was 41 ahead of Mr. Brennan who made an excellent fight on short notice.

Alderman Christie had a majority of some 500 over his opponents Messrs Day and Miller. The fact that both of these gentlemen were out was a source of weakness to both for most people have an objection to losing their votes and defeat stared both of them in the face from the start.

Not so Mr. McMullin of Lorne ward, who proved the man of the day with more votes to his credit than any other in the whole list. It was such a thing as losing a deposit Mr. Mabce would have cried "guilty" because he had but 1032 while his opponent counted 2633.

Then last but not least by any means Alderman McGoldrick came to the front with 86 majority over his opponent Mr. Holder. This was a surprise as many considered that the Stanley alderman had gained strength during the year and his canvass and work were much ahead of last year, but Mr. Holder was better known too and so matters were evened up. In any event the fight was a close one.

After all the bustle, and excitement all the old board who offered were reelected and the two new men take the place of two of the best men on the board Messrs. Ruel and Wilson. May their successors prove just as worthy as they have been.

THEY ARE EASY PREY.

The Young Men Fall Easy Victims to the Pretty Girls.

The pretty chorus girls of the Carleton opera company, and the charming soubrettes of the Paddy Murphy dramatic company, which are both contributing nightly, to the pleasures of St. John theatre goers, are playing havoc with the hearts of many of the young men of this city.

Many flirtations have been carried on during the past week, in connection with which, there are several good stories told.

A few evenings ago, several military officers, entered a Charlotte Street Cafe, for the purpose of partaking of a light repast, before journeying homeward.

The young men had only begun their lunch, when one of the pretty chorus girls put in an appearance.

The young lady who with other female members of the company occupies rooms in same building as the cafe, made herself agreeable to the party of youthful officers, and was finally invited to lunch with them. The invitation was at once accepted, and the sprightly lady sat down to lunch with her new made friends.

The opera in general afforded material for considerable discussion, but it was not long before the conversation drifted to the chorus girls. All sorts of queries were made, as to which was which. To explain matters more fully the fair maiden finally proposed that she should go to the apartments of her room mates, and invite them down to supper. Without any further invitation from the "chappies" the girl hastily wended her way upstairs, and soon several chorus girls were on the scene.

More refreshments were ordered, the best in the house being none too good.

The party laughed and talked, until all the eatables were disposed of, after which the chorus girls bid the young men "adieu" and repaired to their apartments, laughing in their sleeves, so to speak, at the "jolly good time" they had had at the expense of the gallant officers.

Another incident in which a chorus girl, and a youth of tender years, are interested was witnessed on Charlotte street Wednesday morning. The youth in question, stood at the head of King street, with a friend, watching the members of the opera company, as they walked to the opera, by way of Charlotte and Union streets, for a rehearsal.

Upon reaching the Opera house a charming blonde of the company, realized the fact, that she had forgotten her music roll, and immediately made a hasty retreat towards her boarding house for it.

As she passed the youth at the head of King street, she looked his way and smiled, and in return was the recipient of a somewhat flattering remark.

The youth felt elated at the encouragement he received, and decided to await the young lady's return, at the same time remarking to his friend, that she would smile on him. As the young man espied the chorus girl upon her return coming along Charlotte street, opposite the Dufferin hotel, he walked to the corner of Union street, where he awaited her arrival.

At this point the young man with all the

politeness imaginable stepped up to the young lady, and asked if he could carry her music. The interrogation evoked many cruel and harsh remarks from the fair opera singer. The young man realizing his unenviable position, made a hasty retreat towards his friend, to whom he afterwards remarked, that the girl was not so silly as he at first supposed. It is to be hoped that the youthful masker, has learned a lesson and that in future if he wishes to do any flirting, he will not try his luck on the hard hearted opera girls.

The young and pretty soubrette of the company, has during her brief visit Paddy Murphy to the city, won a warm place in the hearts of prominent young men.

Mostly every evening the winsome soubrette, can be seen walking to and from the theatre, with a new admirer, while many of the boys attended the performances, especially to see her in her specialties.

These are only a few of the many instances that afford material for much talk about the streets.

HIS STRANGE MISTAKE.

A Bank Clerk Enters a Private Residence to Sleep off a Jag.

It is not often that the private residences of St. John are turned into a free hotel, for the reception of strangers, but such was the case, in one instance a few nights ago. It happened on Good-Friday evening, the same night that several burglaries were committed. The family of a well known lawyer and insurance man residing on Dorchester street were about to retire on this eventful night, when one member of the household thought she heard the front door being opened, but as no further noise was heard, the family retired without investigation. But if they had made a search, their efforts would not have been in vain. It happened that a well known bank clerk, who had been celebrating the day in grand shape and had at that time just enough liquor in him, to make him so that he did not know where he was, wandered up the steps of the above residence, and opened the front door just as the family were retiring. He did not stop inside the door, however, but went into the first room he came to, and seeing a lounge he thought it would be a capital place for him to sleep. He accordingly laid down and pulled a screen in front of him; and was soon fast asleep.

When the servant of the house came down next morning she was somewhat startled on seeing the bank clerk who was a total stranger to her. About this time he awoke, and was perfectly sober; he soon detected his queer predicament, and told the servant that Mr. ——— must have forgotten to call him; he said he would get up however, which he did, he took a hat belonging to Mr. ——— from the hat tree and departed.

When the family came down for breakfast, the servant spoke of the affair. Of course Mr. ——— knew nothing about the affair, but would like to see the bank clerk as he wants his hat.

DANGER IN SHEATHED WALLS.

Fire Underwriters Recognize It—What About the School Building.

The resolution passed by the board of fire underwriters to increase the rate of insurance upon buildings where the walls are sheathed with wood has caused much speculation and inquiry into the cause for such a move. Progress learns that the chief reason at the present time for this action was the manner in which the grammar school building was built and coupled with the heavy percentage of loss when fires occurred in sheathed buildings. It appears that the new school building is sheathed from top to bottom and according to the opinion of one of the best master builders in the city is for this reason a veritable fire trap. He explained this by saying that when a fire catches in a room that is sheathed and then painted and varnished that the flames envelop the whole of the walls almost instantly and that escape of any number of people is almost impossible. When asked if the hall, and stairways were done in the same way he said they were and that no one could pass down them if the varnish and paint once caught fire.

It also seems that at a recent meeting of doctors the question of the effect of varnished walls upon the eyes of children was discussed and it was agreed that it was very harmful. The board of school trustees could not have been aware of these facts before they proceeded to build, else they would not have allowed such specifications to be carried out. Now the question is how it is to be remedied?

HALIFAX CIVIC FIGHT.

SOME OF THE MEN WHO ARE OUT AFTER CIVIC OFFICES.

How the Fight Progresses in the Good Old City by the Sea—A Brief History of the Candidates and Their Claims Upon the People—Other Matters.

HALIFAX, April 22.—The provincial elections are over; and the battle has been lost and won. But there are other elections for next week which in the estimation of many citizens far outweigh in importance the contest for supremacy in the house of assembly which is just over. The mayoralty and aldermanic fight at the ballot houses takes place on Wednesday of next week.

There are two candidates for the mayoralty—James T. Hamilton and Alexander Stephen. Hamilton was the first out and up to a few days ago it was thought he would have a walk over by acclamation. He has served continuously for nine years as alderman, and for the past six months or a year has been laying his plans for securing the mayoralty. Alderman Foster was talked about as a candidate in opposition to Hamilton but his nomination for the house of assembly removed him from the civic arena. Then all eyes were turned to J. C. Mackintosh. Delegation after delegation urged him to enter the contest assuring him of success. Great pressure was brought on him to accept, particularly by those supposed to represent the temperance element and the class of people most alarmed at our rapidly increasing rate of taxation. But Mr. Mackintosh had already had all he wished of Mayoralty honors and usefulness; his business and the many charitable and benevolent interests in which he is interested demanded all his time, and he felt he could not become a candidate; by the way, the "temperance people" did not pan out to any considerable extent when Mr. Mackintosh ran against Mayor McPherson. In addition to his disinclination to accept the position probably he had lost confidence in the genus "temperance" as a voting machine.

Failing to prevail on Mr. Mackintosh to oppose Hamilton, pretty much the same people waited on Hon. A. G. Jones, promising him their support and urged him to run for the mayoralty. Mr. Jones would have nothing whatever to do with it and he had no difficulty in making the delegation understand that fact.

Alexander Stephen, president of the Nova Scotia Farnishing company had been talked of as a candidate all this time, but as he himself said "No one has asked me to run." When Mackintosh and Jones and all the others were out of the way, however, some one did pop the question to Mr. Stephen and he accepted the proposal. Mr. Stephen has been out of civic politics for some time. He has served in the council as alderman and was chairman of the board of works under the old regime. He is not lacking, therefore, in experience and cannot be charged with being a novice even though he has not the up-to-date knowledge of his opponent. Hamilton has the characteristics of honesty, frankness, thoroughness and knowledge; Stephen perhaps has an element of "politics" which his rival lacks, and which may stand him in good stead now that both are appealing for votes.

It will be an interesting contest—this fight between Hamilton and Stephen and the forces behind each, and the result may well be looked forward to with eagerness. Wednesday evening will tell the tale.

The aldermanic contests, too, will be interesting. The proximity of the local elections has introduced into these an element of politics which was not hitherto so prominent if at all noticeable. It has proved a difficult matter to run the wards on political lines, and both sides have found they could by no means completely keep their parties in line. Personal friendships are too great when it is merely a seat in the council that is in question and a great portion of the people will vote as they please, irrespective of what the party machines may dictate. In ward one, for instance, it proved impossible even to get a candidate to oppose alderman Galdert, who is a liberal, and he will go in by acclamation. If it was impossible to get a candidate in this ward how much more difficult would it be to control the vote and give it to either one man or another on party lines.

In ward 2 Alderman Redden is being given the fight of his life, largely on party lines. The alderman is a strong liberal and in A. J. Grant is found a pronounced conserva-

tive yet there is not the shadow of a doubt that left to mere party politics alderman Redden would have an easy time of it. But a variety of issues have been raised in the hope of defeating Redden. His action on the cookery school question, and the old fire department matter, and almost a score of other questions, have been brought into the contest to do duty in defeating him. Whether these will succeed or not remains to be seen. The chances are they will fail.

Ward 3 is the ward vacated by mayoralty candidate Hamilton. Mr. Hamilton is a conservative, and there a conservative comes forward to succeed him in the council in the person of John Merger, whose loyalty to his party no one will doubt. A couple of days ago the candidature of J. A. Halliday, also of the same political stripe, was announced, but as Merger had already got pretty well over the ground and is a popular fellow, he stands to win. There was some talk of a liberal candidate in this ward, but again the machine failed to work.

In ward 4 a new element is at work. Alderman Ryan is asking for re-election. He is a moderate liberal. Opposed to him is John F. Kelly an ultra liberal, about whose political faith there is no doubt. Ryan could easily win over Kelly, were it not for a third candidate who introduces the new issue. O. P. Hill is a conservative, but it is said that half his canvass is made on the ground that he is a P. P. A. man. Hill says he has a sure thing of it, but it is a question if he has. The conservatives who do not approve of P. P. A. men are said to be supporting Ryan, the moderate liberal. Predictions as to who will win in this ward would be so risky to one's reputation as a prophet that it is better to withhold and await the counting of the ballots next Wednesday.

Ward 5, or as conservative stumpers call it, "Grand old ward 5," is having a contest on party lines. Alderman Foster left this ward for the conservative nominations to the house of assembly. It is a conservative ward. Taking advantage of this Stetson Rogers accepted a nomination for the aldermanic seat. Mr. Rogers is one of the most prominent oddfellows in the city, and he has a large personal following. This added to his undoubted conservatism in politics should give a good chance of success. After Rogers had been out for some time John Hill a member of the school board, a merchant, and a liberal in politics announced his candidature. Whether "temperance" will enter this contest or not it is hard to say, but politics certainly will.

Ward 6 has had a plethora of candidates for the seat vacated by Alderman Ouhit. The alderman himself has only just now withdrawn his name. Ben Smith, a well-known boatman, whose candidature was somewhat laughable, has also withdrawn. The men now hustling round for votes are Thomas Goudge, secretary of the Halifax fire insurance company, a liberal; Dr. Hawkins, ex-coroner, liberal; and W. H. Blois, conservative. In addition to his political rumor has it that Blois is a P. P. A. nominee but whether this is so or not cannot positively be stated. Who will win in for north ward 6, in this triangular contest, is a question which cannot be answered before the ballots are counted.

This is a bird's eye sketch of the civic situation today with less than a week more for canvassing. The mayoralty canvass will be the shortest on record so far as Mr. Stephen is concerned. Some of the would be alderman have been at the work for two months.

Father Corbett's Death.

The tragic death of Rev. Father Corbett, last Sunday morning made the Easter celebration at the Cathedral, and indeed in all the Catholic churches throughout the city, intensely gloomy. Deep grief prevailed everywhere over the sad fate of the talented young clergyman; and sincere sympathy is expressed for the bereaved mother whose sole support he was. Father Corbett gave promise of a bright future and his kindly, generous nature and great devotion to his chosen work won for him the esteem of all who knew him.

Not Mr. Clerke.

In regard to the communication which appeared last week from St. Stephen concerning the action of a certain ex-mayor, Progress is very glad to say that Mr. Clerke, though an ex-mayor, was not the person referred to. Mr. F. M. Murchie was the individual who lost his money in the way spoken of last week.