

PROGRESS.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS

THE CUSTOM HOUSE BAR.

IS THE NEW BUSINESS A WHOLE-SALE OR RETAIL ONE.

How Samples are Tested by the Gaugers—What Becomes of all the Stuff Sent in—An Embarrassing Situation for Officials—Col. Donville's Services Needed.

Will the provincial liquor law interfere with the sale of liquor at the Customs house, is a question that many are trying to solve. Has Inspector Jones' jurisdiction in the case, or can the best of whiskey, brandy and other liquors be sold in the above named institution in defiance of the inspector and his provincial authority? This is a question that is being asked by everybody just now.

A few days ago a druggist purchased a gallon and a half jug of liquor. The purchase was made in the gauger's room at the Custom House and the liquor was a "sample" that had been taken by the gaugers from the different casks that they were called upon to test.

The story goes that certain importers of liquor who under the law, are obliged to have these liquors submitted to government test, sent samples of their goods for inspection, it is understood that these samples after the removal of the quantity necessary for the test shall be returned to the importer. As a matter of fact, so goes the story, these samples in all cases, have not been returned.

Perhaps had the goods not been put up in cases the importers would have found no fault. Indeed, when a quantity from a cask is forwarded to the gauger's department for test, no portion of it is expected to be returned. It appears that obligation of return is only expected in respect to case goods. The accumulation of liquors it will be seen, would be large in a very short time, and the stock would soon become a matter of importance. Such appears to be the opinion held by the officials concerned, as they get the credit of disposing of the stock thus acquired to a large liquor dealer who had no samples among the lot or the druggist mentioned above. What action will be taken by the authorities remains to be seen, but a desire for truth impels the remark, that there is nothing new in this—only happens that the circumstances have now become public property for the first time. It has been asserted in some quarters that a number of years since a certain liquor dealer was set up in business, with a supply of goods procured through this same customs department, but whether as a gift or as a subject of sale is only known to the parties directly concerned. That was several years ago but there are many alive today to whom the recent "discovery" presents new features. The time appears opportune for a thorough investigation although it is probable the preponderance of evidence would show that in respect to some importers at least, the greater part of their sample bottles are restored to their possession.

Enquiry at Collector Ruel's office elicited the facts that the gaugers room is under the control of head gauger Robertson and two assistants, Messrs. McCart and Connor. It was also learned that liquor had been sold from the samples for years and the sale was being continued despite the commands of the collector.

The gaugers do not deny that the liquor was sold but they claim it has been the practice for years to sell it. The method of testing liquor is an interesting one. Every cask or barrel of the ardent that comes into the customs house is tested, samples being taken from each cask. When the samples have served their purpose and have been tested, what is left is poured into a large jug and this concoction of mixed drinks is looked on as common property. Flour, molasses, oil and other commodities are it is said tested in the same manner and in every case the gaugers appropriate the samples for their own use. Probably the men did nothing wrong in selling the liquor from an official point of view, but Inspector Jones may consider that they had no right to violate the law by selling intoxicating liquors without a license. The inspector is in a peculiar position as his office demands that if a customs house is turned into a mere tavern he will exact a license fee and will demand that they procure a license, that they close at the legal hours and that they specify whether a retail or wholesale business it is to be conducted.

He will also doubtless insist that the regulation light be placed over the big front door. This might be extremely humiliating to the officers of the Customs service, but it would only be just to the public and the trade generally.

If the business is allowed to continue and is pronounced legal it will be a question whether the other saloons in the same ward will allow this competitor to continue business in the haphazard way it is now being conducted.

They will probably demand that if the government, either of its own free will or by the act of some of its employees, is going to "rush the growler" in this way it must come out and sell according to the strict letter of the law.

HE DECLINED TO SPEAK.

SULLIVAN ON ADVICE OF HIS COUNSEL REMAINED SILENT.

Verdict in the Moncton Murder Implicates Sullivan—Prisoner Remains Silent in the Dutcher Case.

The coroners inquest into the cause of the Meadow Brook tragedy was brought to a close on Saturday afternoon, and the seven good men and true who comprised the jury have handed in their verdict which declares that in their opinion, Eliza Dutcher, and Harris Dutcher of that place came to their death through foul means, and that the circumstances are such as to implicate John Sullivan. In accordance with this finding, Sullivan will be brought up for his preliminary examination before the stipendiary magistrate this morning, and be given an opportunity to testify in his own behalf. Two or three times during the inquest he has been offered this opportunity but acting on the advice of his counsel he has persistently declined to say anything.

The inquest has been unusual both as regards the number of witnesses examined, and the length of time it occupied, being the longest ever held by Coroner Wortman. During the last week nothing of great importance was elicited until the last day but once, when a man of the name of Moses Steeves testified to seeing Sullivan counting over a roll of notes containing something like three hundred dollars, in the bar room of the Brunswick Hotel. The notes were fives, tens, and some twenty dollar notes, as far as the witness could see. This is perhaps the most damaging evidence yet submitted, as the prisoner's lack of money has been a decided point in his favor so far.

It seems strange that of all the people who were with him during the two days of his stay in Moncton after the tragedy, this man to whom he was a stranger should be the only one to see him with more than a few dollars.

At the time of his arrest Sullivan stated that he would have no difficulty in proving that he was sixty miles from the scene of the murder at the time it occurred, but the one witness C. Bruce McDougall, who gave direct testimony in his favor, as tending to establish an alibi seems to have made a mistake as to the night on which he says Sullivan was with him almost at the time the crime was committed, but the evidence of other witnesses would tend to prove that he was a day out in his calculations, and at the time he believed himself to have been conversing with Sullivan on Thursday night, he was in reality asleep in the house of a man named John Macdonald. Mr. McDougall honestly believed himself to have been conversing with Sullivan some time during Thursday night or in the early hours of Friday morning in the bar room of the American hotel, but the bar tender swears positively that the bar was locked between eleven and twelve o'clock on the night in question, and that he does not remember seeing Mr. McDougall or any stranger in the bar during the evening, and there the matter rests for the present.

Meanwhile the prisoner is kept in close confinement and not allowed to have any communication with his friends, though he has managed to elude the vigilance of his guardians with great ingenuity, and succeeded in sending messages to his family written on scraps of newspaper with his own blood. It is supposed that these messages have been secreted in the baskets in which food has been carried to Sullivan, as one was picked up yesterday in a street car by one of the conductors, which had been dropped by the prisoner's father. The message read—"Send for John Warren, I got money from him [and George, on Sunday in St. John]."

Up to yesterday even the prisoner's counsel Mr. R. B. Smith has not been permitted to see, or at least to speak to him, but yesterday, after much effort an order was obtained from the Attorney General authorizing Mr. Smith to hold any necessary communication with his client.

The charge on which Sullivan will be brought up is assault on Maggie Dutcher, with intent to kill. A new and it may be an important feature of the case, is the discovery of a car pin which was picked up last week. The pin had evidently been through the fire, and as neither Mrs. Dutcher's sons nor any of the Green family ever saw it before, or knew of such a thing being in the house, there seems some ground for the supposition that it may have been the weapon used by the assassin in taking the lives of his victims.

The condition of the little Dutcher girl whose testimony may prove so important to the crown is still far from being satisfactory and though her medical attendant, Dr. Ross, is a man of undoubted skill, there seems to be a growing feeling in the community that no effort should be spared to save her life and reason, and that it would be better if a consultation of several physicians could be held. There is little

HOW THEY SAW THE FAIR.

A HALIFAX MAN AND HIS SPOUSE DO THE CITY.

He Gets Some New Clothes and a Night's Lodging in Jail—His Wife Gets Gay and is Refused Admission to a North End Hotel—Other Matters.

A big fair like the exhibition brings to a city all types and classes of people and is productive of numerous incidents uncommon to ordinary every day life. Then too there is a sense of freedom when one reaches a strange city and if there is any inclination to a good time all restraint is thrown off and the good time is had, there being a feeling that those upon whom one may chance while in the whirl of enjoyment know not who you are nor will others be any the wiser, while those at home will be in blissful ignorance of all that may occur and are satisfied if they get a reasonable account of the visit.

One man who came to the exhibition brought up in Sheriff Rarkine's hotel before he had been many days in town. It was all because of a little clothing bill—some \$30—owed to a King street clothing house. The limb of the law who sought to apprehend the party as he was about leaving the city to journey whence he came, found his task too difficult, for liberty was found to the one sought for—and particularly so at that time. A policeman was summoned, however, and the refractory debtor was lodged in the debtors jail. He didn't remain long in custody for the ready was forthcoming and he paid the bill.

This one little incident does not by any means tell the whole story of his troubles and trials while here. When he came to St. John he was accompanied by his pretty wife. When he left he wasn't accompanied by her. They came here from Halifax, where he has been practicing his profession—though he is not a native of that city, claiming a large United States city as his headquarters. After arrival in St. John, he and his wife secured a boarding place, husband and wife became separated. He had been, like Dick Swiveller, "passing the day," a little too frequently and perhaps this may account for losing track of his wife.

However, that they did become separated is certain for at a rather late hour at night a coach rattled up to the door of an hotel situated on the road to North end and who should be inside but the professional man's wife and she, too, so the story goes, had also been imitating the example of the Mr. Swiveller before referred to. The hotel proprietor could not take her as a guest and she was left to the guidance of the coachman to find shelter from the September winds.

Coachmen do not tell tales—if they did many surprises would doubtless be given the public—and except perhaps to this particular John it is not known where the lady was driven this night after the hotelman's refusal to welcome her within his gates.

But a day or two later she was known to have been installed in a house in the same vicinity and one to which reference has before been made in these columns. Here she remained while her husband speeded back to Halifax town. All this time the lady's baggage lay in the baggage room in the Union depot uncalled for. But on Wednesday of this week it was found that her belongings had been taken away, by whom it is not known though it was learned that a large, rather good looking man had called at the baggage room for the luggage. This meagre description did not give much of a clue, [but describes the husband, so that after separation in a strange city they were probably re-united and it is to be presumed spent the hours of their journey most entertainingly, relating their experiences. At first glance it looks as if the husband didn't have the best time.

THEY WERE NOT DRUGGED.

But Had Taken a Little too Much Wine With Former Friends.

There is a woman and daughter in this city who have figured a little before the public this week, and while not in the quiet way they are used to yet they have managed to be known a little better to their former friends who now think they have been nicely fooled. The startling announcement, at the first of the week, that two girls had been drugged in a house on St. David street aroused quiet a little excitement for the time, but the quiet way in which the affair has been dealt with, has kept the people from making further inquiries. It has turned out to be nothing more or less than a drunken spree and managed to be known a little better to their former friends who now think they have been nicely fooled.

THE HUSBAND CAME BACK.

He Was Delighted With City Life and Was Loth to Leave It.

Among the many visitors to St. John during the week were a young man and his wife who came on the Shore Line Railway. After dutifully showing his better half about the buildings and taking in all the attractions of the exhibition the gentleman, with his wife, boarded the train on their homeward journey.

The wife is probably home by this time but the husband has not reached there yet, or at least had not, up to Thursday night for he still was about the city taking in the opera house amusement hall and, incidentally, any other fun which might slip into his way. He didn't leave his spouse in the way usual at leave-taking; however, for he bought his ticket for home and boarded the train with her and was carried from the station. Perhaps she had kept too close an eye on him, but, however that may be, he won in the long run, for at Spruce Lake the downward special excursion train was met by the regular coming from St. Stephen. It was a matter of a very few seconds for him to wish more of the joys of a city life to betake himself from one train to the other. He did so and back to town he came while his wife journeyed homeward alone.

WHERE ARE THE FUNDS.

A Question as to the Assets of the Union Engine Company.

HALIFAX, Sept. 30.—The Union Engine Company of this city had been prominently before the public for many years and it had an honorable career. A couple of years ago it came in conflict with the City Council. The result was that it was relieved of its duties as a fire protection corps, and its members were relegated to private life. The company determined to keep up its existence despite the fact that they had no public functions to perform. One good reason for doing this was that there was a sum of from \$800 to \$1100 in the funds. This money, the faction in the company which sided into the city, claimed should not remain with the U. E. C. but should be divided up pro rata among all hands. The dismissed U. E. C. took the other view. They held on to the money and defied their enemies to take it from them. An injunction was talked of to compel the officers of the U. E. C. to hand over the cash. In order to defeat a possible decision of the courts in this matter, should this injunction case have come up, the U. E. C. decided on an anticipatory counter move. The funds were placed by check in the hands of a party to act as trustee, and so leave the legal impression, should the eyes of the law look into the company officers, that the U. E. C. had no available funds, it was supposed to be a smart trick. The doing enemies of the U. E. C. dropped their injunction intentions, partly for political reasons for the Mackintosh-McPherson majority elections were on and the existence of the money was forgotten.

Now there is renewed war, but this time within the ranks of the U. E. C. while its old enemies are looking on enjoying the struggle. The question is where is that money? The U. E. C. members want to see it with their own eyes. It is needed for the use of the company—and at once. It may be all right, but pertinent questions have been asked though under stress of strict secrecy. A committee has been appointed to hold an investigation and they are to have the cash within reasonable distance of their hands, or know the reason why. The matter is expected to come to head next Wednesday, and after that time others than the enemies of the U. E. C. may be watching a fight of considerable interest. Already some of the members do not "speak as they pass by."

AND BRUCE KNOWS IT ALL.

The Ubiquitous Bruce MacDougall and his Testimony on "Booze."

At the inquest held at Moncton in the Meadow Brook tragedy this week two very important witnesses were called, viz., Dr. O. J. McCally gave evidence on "bona" and the effect of fire on human bones, and Mr. Bruce MacDougall, gave evidence on "booze" and its effect on the human system. To the average intelligent court spectator Mr. MacDougall on booze, sounded much more topical than Prof. McCally on bones. MacDougall as a witness is hard to beat, he was on the witness stand all day and allowed the prosecuting attorney to thump away at him for all he was worth, while the witness sat with as much composure as though he were a Supreme Court Judge. He answered all the questions asked him with the shrewdness of an old attorney. McCally was very slow in his answers and often had to say "I don't know what this bone is, whether it is human or the foreleg of a quadruped." He was paid by the local government for giving his testimony, and he could afford to take his time.

Mr. Vadder's Clever Work.

Mr. Chas. F. Vadder, the lightning artist, who has been giving exhibitions at the exhibit of P. S. McNutt & Co. left for his home in Boston on Thursday afternoon. Mr. Vadder was the centre of attraction in the main building during exhibition. Specimens of his work will be found in most homes in St. John and are also largely circulated through the provinces. Mr. Vadder only worked seven days at the exhibition, and was constantly at work turning out first class hand paintings on an average of one a minute. His patience and planning manner have won for him many friends who are glad to see him on future occasions.

Mr. Arthur's for Dolls, Toys and Fancy Goods.

MR. ARTHUR'S FOR DOLLS, TOYS AND FANCY GOODS.

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Colonial Railway.

WILL LEAVE ST. JOHN

ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN:

ADIAN PACIFIC RY.

D. BOSTON & C.

Atlantic R'y.

RUPERT.

EXPRESS RATES

EXPRESS CO.

UNION

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EXPRESS CO.

EXPRESS CO.

EXPRESS CO.

EXPRESS CO.

EXPRESS CO.

EXPRESS CO.