

# The Evening Times.

ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 14, 1908

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**THE EVENING TIMES,  
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.**

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## LIGHT TURNED ON

For a long time past St. John people have been familiar with whispered insinuations that Hon. Dr. Pugsley was in league with Mr. Mayes in dredging contracts, and that the former profited by the operations of the latter.

There will be no more of this kind of talk. The correspondence between the minister and Mr. Mayes, published today, shows that the former discharged his full duty as the guardian of the public interests. Had he been so minded he could have made the profits of Mr. Mayes very much larger, but in every case he declined to accede to the requests of the contractor.

This correspondence puts a new face on the whole matter and reveals the minister in a most favorable and highly creditable light. Instead of raising the treasury, as he is so basely charged with doing, he protected it.

In view of last night's revelations, how hollow and insincere are the statements of Premier Hazen and Sir James Whitney in their references to the character of the minister of public works. The provincial premier must now be conscious of the very grave mistake he made in pinning his faith to that affidavit. It is a game two or more can play at, and in this case the result is disastrous, not to the reputation of Dr. Pugsley, but of his reckless traducers. He has come out of the ordeal stronger in the esteem of fair-minded men, and at the same time the people of St. John are given an example at home by which they may judge the merits of the slander campaign being carried on all over Canada.

Conservative newspapers everywhere are publishing the Mayes affidavit, with its false and slanderous assertion that Dr. Pugsley while a minister secured \$2,000 from Mr. Mayes, to be paid for by his influence as a minister in getting better terms for the contractor. How many of those papers will give equal prominence to the exposure? The wires were hot on Monday night with the falsehood. They were not so hot yesterday with the exposure of the falsehood.

There is one consolation for the minister of public works. He stands higher today in the esteem of St. John people than at any previous time in his whole political career.

## THE EXPLANATION

The Standard this morning pursues a course, relative to Mr. George McAvity, which should be regarded as unworthy of the organ of any party professing to be fair and honest.

The Standard charges Mr. McAvity with refusing to explain or to make any statement as to his relations with Mr. Mayes. And yet that righteous organ of a "lost" party knows very well that Mr. McAvity made in his affidavit the following statement:—

"That in the summer of 1905, Mr. Mayes requested me to become interested with him in the dredging business and I consented to do so. I made several trips to Ottawa in connection with the obtaining of contracts and spent a great deal of time in connection therewith, both before and after the first contract was awarded, being in almost daily consultation with Mr. Mayes until some few months ago, when his conduct became unbearable. His demands were so unreasonable and as I then thought and said to Mr. Baxter so much in the nature of blackmail that I declined to have any further transactions with him. My business connection with Mr. Mayes is now the subject of an action at law and will be fully dealt with in the courts."

Mr. McAvity says much more than this. He confirms all that Dr. Pugsley has said about Mr. Mayes' efforts to force the minister to buy the dredge, and about the suggestion that \$20,000 be added to the price and secured as a Liberal campaign fund.

The nature of the business partnership between Mr. McAvity and Mr. Mayes will be disclosed in the courts, and the former has so little to fear from exposure that he defied Mr. Mayes and his threats, and declared that his methods savored of blackmail.

There are also the affidavits of Messrs. Moore and Holt, which further confirm the statements of Dr. Pugsley and Mr. McAvity. Instead of charging that no explanation has been given, the Standard has got much more explanation than it bargained for when it consented to become a medium through which false and defamatory statements were to be given to the public. It now weakly argues that "Mr. G. S. Mayes is not an issue in this campaign." It would like to get him away out of sight. But there he stands, yoked up with Mr. Hazen and the Standard. He is to be their dredger-in-chief if they win the elections. He was made the great issue in the campaign, and Mr. Hazen regarded his affidavit as the greatest political production of the day. The Conservative leaders expected Mr. Mayes and his affidavit to elect their candidates for them. But now that the light has been turned on they are all hunting cover. They are hoist by their own petard.

## GREAT DEMONSTRATION

Not less in the spirit displayed than in numbers did last night's great meeting at the Opera House declare that the malicious attacks upon Dr. Pugsley have aroused the indignation of the citizens and made for him friends where it was hoped to make enemies.

No public man could ask for a more enthusiastic assurance of sympathy and confidence. The building was all too small to contain the crowd that throughout the evening continued to struggle for even standing room within sound of the speaker's voice.

As Dr. Pugsley read the correspondence between Mr. Mayes and himself, and continued with the affidavits of Messrs. McAvity, Moore and Holt, and then proceeded to denounce in fitting terms the attempt first to blackmail him and afterwards to damn him as a public man, the feeling of the vast audience found expression with gathering force, in continued cheering for the man whose integrity as a public man had first been tested, and then his reputation grossly assailed, by those who found they could not break down his integrity as a minister of the crown. It was a splendid demonstration, and one long to be remembered in the political history of St. John. The reception given both to Dr. Pugsley and Mr. Pender presaged a brilliant victory for both on the 26th of October.

That was a fine and very impressive picture of Sir Wilfrid Laurier which was drawn by the eloquent Mr. MacNeil last evening. He pictured to his audience the son of the poor farmer, the clever student, the able lawyer, the successor of Mackenzie and Blake as the head of one of the great parties, the leader of a government during twelve years of peace and prosperity, and one of the great statesmen of the British overseas. It was an inspiring series of pictures, and Mr. MacNeil's dramatic assertion that there was no Canadian but was proud to call himself a fellow citizen of Sir Wilfrid Laurier was greeted with tremendous applause.

The Standard did not bring out any large type on its first page today to hail Mr. Mayes as the savior of his country. It has some evasive and half apologetic references on the inside of the sheet, but evidently desires to be rid of any further responsibility for Mr. Mayes.

So little is heard of Dr. Daniel and Dr. MacRae these days that they might fairly experience a feeling of jealousy in regard to Mr. G. S. Mayes, the party's choice for his chief spokesman.

Now let us get back to the question of winter port development. The government will be sustained. Elect Pugsley and Pender.

The Conservative leaders met in caucus yesterday and it is said some very plain remarks were made about the Mayes affair.

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## NEW JEWELRY

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## COURTENAY BAY

Mr. Pender showed very clearly why the Grand Trunk Pacific must come to St. John. It will be forced to do so by the Liberal policy of diverting Canadian trade to Canadian ports by making the preference apply only to goods brought in in this way.

Mr. Logan added that the order in council making this discrimination in favor of our own ports would be passed when the Grand Trunk Pacific is in a position to handle the business. There is all the more reason, therefore, that Dr. Pugsley's policy of providing terminals at Courtenay Bay should be carried out as rapidly as possible. The Conservative press and speakers profess not to believe that the G. T. P. will come here, but this is no time for the pessimist. He whose watchword is "forward" is the man for St. John.

Mr. Mayes says the substitution of 1907 for 1903 as the year when he gave Dr. Pugsley \$2,000 was a typographical error. And yet every man who was told about it before the affidavit was prepared was led to believe that it was in 1907, when Dr. Pugsley was minister of public works, that the money was paid, and that it was of the nature of a bribe to a contractor instead of the payment of the public interest. How did all these people get this impression before the affidavit was used? The question is a very proper and important one. Dr. Pugsley has no hesitation in declaring his belief that the impression was deliberately conveyed, to injure him, or force him to buy the dredge.

In the midst of the increasing turmoil of the campaign, with its Conservative programme of slander to divert public attention, the citizens must not permit themselves to overlook the vital issue of winter port development. Pugsley and Pender stand for that policy, and they deserve the support of the people. When the voice of the scandal-monger has subsided St. John will still occupy the premier position as Canada's winter port, and it would be criminal folly to put such obstacles as two opposition members in the way of that development which the minister of public works has begun to carry out.

Mr. MacNeil and Mr. Logan assured the Liberal mass meeting last night that Quebec and Nova Scotia would do their duty on the 26th.

Mr. Logan's comparison of Fielding and Foster last evening showed clearly the folly there would be in again making the latter finance minister.

**THIS CANDY SCHOOL.**

"I'd like to go to candy school. For it would be such fun. I'd have good things to study with, And eat when we were done."

"How many pieces in a pound?" "Teacher would ask of me, And handing me a paper bag, She'd bid me count and see."

Each chocolate drop I would subtract, When I had counted all, Then she would say to multiply With sugar almonds small."

And then divide and dividend, And quotient I might eat, I never liked arithmetic, But then I'd think it sweet."

And then she'd say, "Spell jujube paste!" And if I got it right, Or pipstems stick or walnut fudge, She'd let me have a bite."

And when our lessons all were learned, Or then we'd do our best, "Tear candy school!" Sweet candy school! You are the school for me!" —*John's Companion.*

**IN LIGHTER VEIN**

**HIS FAREWELL ADDRESS.**

Teacher—"Now, Johnny, what was Washington's farewell address?" Johnny—"Heaven,"—*New York Sun.*

**IT DEPENDS.**

Impatient American (after an hour's meal—"Say, guard, what is business we waiting for? What time'd we pull out, any way, now?") Guard—"Depend on what?" American—"Depend on what?" Guard (judicially)—"Ah, sir, that again depends."—*Punch.*

**FAILURE AND OPPORTUNITY.**

"The successful man," said Uncle Eben, "keeps quiet so's he can hear opportunity knockin' at de do." De failure tries to do all de knockin' hisse."—*Washington Star.*

**AT SEVENTY.**

Doctor—"The room seems cold, Mr. Higgins. Have you kept the thermometer at 70?" "Seventy," "Sure, an' O' her, doctor, there's th' thing in a tumbler at warmin' weather at this bleedin' minute!"—*Philadelphia Inquirer.*

**THRIFTY.**

"Well, parson, is your sock liberal in their 'views'?" "Well, I should say dey is not that. Why, when I asked them to sing 'Ole Hundred' dey done sung 'The Ninety and Nine.'"—*Harper's.*

**A PROPOSITION.**

"Johnnie, I will give you a quarter if you can get me a lock of your sister's hair." "Gimme your hair an' I'll get you de whole bunch. I know where she hangs it nights."—*Houston Post.*

**THE TACTFUL DOCTOR.**

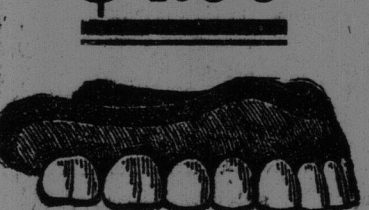
A physician in a small town in Northern Michigan got himself into a serious predicament by his inability to remember names and people. One day, while making out a patient's receipt, his visitor's name escaped him. Not wishing to appear so forgetful, and thinking to get a clue, he asked her whether she spelled her name with an "e" or "i." The lady smilingly replied, "Why, doctor, my name is Hill."—*Success Magazine.*

**WHY HE JOINED.**

"Tommy," said a young lady visitor at his home, "why not come to our Sabbath School?" Several of your little friends joined us lately." Tommy hesitated a moment, then suddenly he exclaimed, "Does a red-headed kid by the name of Jimmy Brown go to your school?" "Yes, indeed," replied the new teacher. "Well, then," said Tommy, with an air of interest, "I'll be there next Sunday, you bet. I've been sayin' for t'at kid for three weeks and never knew where to find him."—*Philadelphia Public Ledger.*

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## THE INGLENOOK

**PHILOSOPHER OF KENNEBECASIS BAY**

He was a sturdy and very handsome young man, my cousin Harry, when I first met him. He had just graduated from a college that the young men of the country are today, as then, proud to name as their alma mater. He was what they called a "capable" youth and he knew it, but when his father urged him to study medicine and become a country practitioner like himself, he objected, and objected strenuously. He wanted to see life, he said, and could not endure the thought of tying himself to a mortar and pestle and the apron strings of old women afflicted with "rheumatism" and other old womanly ailments. He had youth and wanted to enjoy it; he had health and did not want to destroy it by inhaling the odors of asafoetida and kindred drugs.

One day it was discovered that my cousin Harry had disappeared with most of his belongings and not long after my uncle received a letter from him mailed at New Bedford asking forgiveness for his unkind conduct and telling how he had joined a whaling vessel bound for the Arctic and would be absent three years.

New Bedford was then the headquarters of an almost extinct industry. Its wharves were always lined with whale ships and its warehouses were always full of casks of whale oil and piles of whale bone. Both were useful and in those days both were thought indispensable.

About a year later we heard from my cousin Harry again. His ship had sailed around Cape Horn and up the coast, then a wilderness from the southern point of California to the Arctic, with the exception of a small settlement where the city of Portland, Oregon, now stands. They had not yet reached the whaling grounds when he despatched his letter by a returning fishing vessel with a full cargo, but, he said, "we hope to be harpooning our game in a few weeks."

We heard from my cousin Harry two or three times more before he returned home about three years later. When he came he was the same cousin Harry as before, but a little browner, a little stouter and a little more sedate. He was looked upon as a hero by all the up-country folk, and when he was asked, as he often was, to tell the story of his experiences, he always drew from his pocket a roll of closely written foolscap and read with much satisfaction his account of his whaling voyage. I am of the opinion that he thought it a pretty well told story.

Later my cousin Harry studied medicine in his father's office, got his degree, married, and settled down to the practice of his profession in a neighboring village. But nothing ever seemed to please him better than, by the winter fire, to read the story of his whale hunt to a group of listening neighbors. "The sailor is home from the sea and the hunter is home from the hill." He died about fifty years ago.

Whitehead, Kings county, Oct. 12.

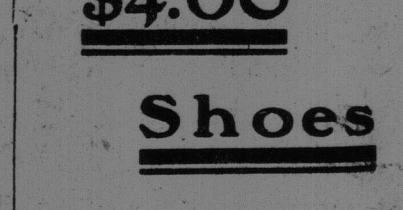
## MR. MAYES CRITICISED

Editor Times.

Sir—Look up Mr. Mayes' record. Nearly every transaction has ended in a lawsuit. It got the best of the city for a few thousand some years ago. I think any of the aldermen sitting at that time will remember the circumstances. It might also interest the public to know what Mayes paid the city for water for his dredge. The Cape Breton had con-

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