

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1913

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ST. JOHN'S FINANCES

No city in Canada is in a more financial sound position than St. John.

The financial statement issued today makes this fact clear. The city's debt is approximately \$2,000,000, and that seems a large sum until we ask ourselves what there is on the other side of the account. Then we learn, first, that there is \$2,000,000 in the sinking fund. Next there is \$2,000,000 which is represented by the city's water service. But this service takes care of its own interest and sinking fund. Then there are the harbor works, whose revenue, if capitalized, would represent \$1,500,000. Lastly there are city lands whose revenue would capitalize at \$500,000.

Thus the \$2,000,000 is accounted for, and no account has been taken of many non-producing assets which are yet of very great value to the city.

The showing, therefore, is a most gratifying one. There are no St. John city bonds begging on the market. The city is perfectly sound financially, and its affairs are conducted on a strictly business basis. There are sinking funds to take care of all loans except one or two very old ones. The old city council in its later years deserves the credit for inaugurating a better system in the chamberlain's office, and the present rulers have steadily applied business methods in dealing with the city's finances. It must be intensely pleasing to the citizens to know that in this year so full of promise of substantial growth, when great efforts are to be made to attract industries and tell the world more of the story of St. John and its ambitions, the financial position of the city is so satisfactory from every point of view.

With regard to the transactions of the past year, Comptroller MacIntyre points out that the city has lived well within its income, and had at the end of 1912 a surplus of \$20,000. In no case did any department exceed its appropriation. The city council applied business principles, and the result is a very satisfactory showing for the year.

The statements of the chamberlain and comptroller are given in today's Times, and will be read with great interest by the citizens. One gratifying feature to be noted is the more prompt payment of taxes, which means a smaller percentage of loss than was suffered from this source in former years.

THE BOARD NOT BLAME

The Times has received two communications today which are worthy of attention. One correspondent says:

"If the present state of affairs continues to prevail, increased rates and taxes, higher rents, increased cost of living, poor wages, etc., we will soon have to change the optimistic wording seen on all sides these days, 'I believe in St. John' for the more appropriate motto, 'I believe in St. John'."

The other correspondent sends a drawing of a thermometer such as was used in the Times in connection with the board of trade membership campaign, but makes it apply to rent, wages and cost of living. He discovers that rent and the cost of living, especially rent, have gone up with a jump, while there is not a proportionate increase in wages. This writer signs himself a trade unionist, and asks how it will benefit the working class to boost the board of trade or to bring new industries to the city if the individual working man is not helped. He says:

"I don't wish to use the hammer, but if your board of trade would take a look at this thermometer and just try to do a little boosting in our line, you would find the working class of this city would boost St. John, too."

A little more careful thinking will show this correspondent that the board of trade is not to be blamed for the increase in rents. That has been brought about by the increased demand for houses. St. John has entered upon a period of growth. More people are seeking homes. The only way to meet that condition is to build more houses. Anything that the board of trade can do to encourage the erection of houses which can be secured at a reasonable rental should certainly be done. The board of trade is not responsible for the increased cost of living. It is trying to get more industries, which will provide more employment, and therefore make it easier for working people to secure steady employment and a better living.

Let us look for a moment at the other side of the picture. Suppose rents were going down and real estate was unobtainable, would that be a happy state of affairs for the working man? It would be an indication that the city was losing ground and its industries declining. It must be very obvious to anyone who thinks about it that the board of trade cannot fix wages. That is no part of its work. It may fairly, and we have no doubt will, give attention to many matters which effect the welfare of working people. That is a part of the new programme. How would it do to give the board and its new council a fair trial, before making it a scapegoat and blaming it for all the ills of this and former generations?

Mr. A. B. Farmer, who recently delivered some addresses in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia on the subject of tax reform, tells a Toronto Journal that the reception he received everywhere was a revelation to him. He says he had no idea that in these provinces were so ready for the gospel of tax reform.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

A census bulletin just issued makes an interesting comparison between the dairy production in Canada in 1900 and in 1910, taking the three items of butter, cheese and condensed milk, which is as follows:

	1900	1910
Butter	\$22,211,430	\$31,887,128
Cheese	7,240,972	15,940,944
Condensed milk	299,220	1,814,871
Total	\$29,751,622	\$39,642,943

There was thus an increase in the value of the dairy products of the country of 33.33 per cent. in the ten years. It will be observed, however, that the increase was in butter and condensed milk, and that the amount of cheese produced in 1910 was actually less than the output of ten years before.

Taking the figures for New Brunswick, we find that while the value of butter produced in this province was increased from \$38,589 in 1900 to \$1,212,235 in 1910, the value of cheese fell off from \$187,108 in 1900 to \$129,877 in 1910. During the ten years the average selling price of butter increased from 29,006 cents to 24,182 cents, but the advance in cheese was only from 10,025 cents to 10,787 cents.

There is surely room for an expansion of the cheese industry in Canada; for, despite the gradual increase in production, there are actually imported large quantities of butter from New Zealand. The dairymen say that one of the reasons for their failure to supply the home market is the high cost of farm labor, and that under present conditions it pays them better to turn their attention to other things than the production of butter and cheese. At present prices for butter and cheese, there ought to be a very good margin of profit for every properly conducted dairy farm, but while this is true the Farmer's Advocate appears to believe that any large increase in the number of cows would bring the price of milk below a profitable basis. It is worth noting, however, that this pessimistic view is not held by all the farmers.

President Robinson of the board of trade extends hearty thanks to those who aided in last week's campaign. On their part they say that they were glad to associate themselves in such a cause with so energetic a leader. In other part of today's Times is set forth the statement of some things which have been accomplished by the council of the board during the past two months. It is a very gratifying record.

The fact that in two months 132 persons arriving as immigrants at West St. John have been prevailed on to remain and settle in New Brunswick, instead of going farther west, must be placed to the credit of the council of the board of trade, although they have been assisted by the provincial immigration department. During the next three months the agent on the west side should be able to induce many more immigrants to remain in this province. It is fair to assume that the province is the lower by not having an immigration agent engaged every winter for years past to tell the newcomers about New Brunswick and its advantages and opportunities.

It has been claimed in connection with the new sugary refinery that the industry should give a great impetus to the production of sugar beets in this province. In this connection we find in the last issue of the Census and Statistics Monthly a statement to the effect that the quantity of raw sugar manufactured from Canadian grown sugar beets in 1911-12 was 29,877,857 pounds. The sugar beets were raised in Wallaceburg and Berlin. At Wallaceburg 61,226 short tons of beets, yielding 8318,440, at an average price of \$5.20 per ton. In Berlin the acreage planted was 4,400 from which was raised 376,66 short tons of beets. The average price received by the growers there was \$6.15 per ton.

I. O. O. F. PRESENTATION AT DIGBY

Digby, Feb. 1.—An event of more than ordinary interest occurred in St. George's Lodge, of Odd Fellows, in Digby last night. After the third degree had been conferred on five candidates, Mr. M. E. Denton called up Bro. H. W. Bowles, Digby's former chief of police, in front of the chair, and presented him with a veteran's jewel, the only member in St. George's Lodge entitled to bear this distinction among his brethren. The noble grand made an excellent speech in connection with the presentation. Mr. Bowles replied with words that came from the heart.

Mr. Bowles became an Odd Fellow in 1875.

NO OPENING.

A man had been absent from home for some time, and during his absence had raised a luxuriant beard and moustache. Shortly after his return he paid a visit to his sister, who had a little daughter of whom he was especially fond.

The little girl made no effort to embrace him or offer him a kiss, but hung back reluctantly.

"Why, Eleanor," said the mother, "why don't you give Uncle Ed a kiss?"

"Well, mother," said the child, with the most perfect simplicity, "I don't see any place."

Brand new picture features at Gem today; same as being seen today in New York for first time.

BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

FEBRUARY THIRD.

Sir William Van Horne, one of Canada's biggest and brainiest captains of industry, is seventy years old today. Born of humble parents in Joliet, Ill., he entered railway service at the foot of the ladder and rose by slow degrees to positions of great responsibility on American roads. In 1882 he became general manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and has been successively vice-president, president and chairman of the board of directors, retiring in 1910. He is a director of many companies, is interested in stock raising, and is an artist of considerable talent.

Another prominent civil servant celebrates his natal day on February third, in the person of Archibald Blue, head of the census and statistics bureau, who was born at Oxford, Ontario, in 1840. Originally a public school teacher, he drifted into journalism in St. Thomas, and later worked on the press in Toronto. In 1882 he organized and became secretary of the Ontario Bureau of Industries, then filled the position of Deputy Minister of Agriculture for seven years, finally becoming head of the Bureau of Mines. He went to Ottawa in 1900 as chief census commissioner and was promoted to his present office in 1905. He is an extra statistician.

LIGHTER VEIN

KEEP IT GOING.

A fire had broken out in Clodville, and the hurriedly summoned firemen had just dashed off to save the threatened property.

With singular inconsiderateness, another fire selected that precise moment to break out at the other end of the village.

"It's well that somebody who had only heard of the second outbreak, 'you're going the wrong way'."

"No!" called the captain, pulling up; "it's the first fire, that's on fire."

"Well so is Blank's bootshop."

"All right," he shouted enthusiastically, as they dashed off again; "we'll be back to Blank's fire directly. Keep it going."

WHY HE CRIED.

It was a mixed party and when the lights were lowered for the old-fashioned "napoleon" young Blinks managed to edge closer to the golden-haired maiden he adored.

There was a three-minute scramble, and when the lights went up there arose a howl of disappointment from one of the young lads who happened to be near our friend Blinks.

"What's the matter, Willie?" inquired the hostess. "Didn't you get any?"

"Didn't get the chance," bellowed the boy. "Soon as it started that fellow with the cry-baby collar held of my hand and didn't leave off kissing it till the gas was on again!"

HAD HIS REVENGE.

The frost had frozen some of the taps in a gentleman's house, and he called in the plumber, but as a plumber had to be called in. The plumber was shown round by the coachman, but as soon as he commenced work an officious butler kept close watch over him. He didn't like this treatment, and determined to play a trick on the butler. In the bathroom he found a burst pipe, and after cutting up the ice, he quickly popped his thumb-screw into the butler's nose, and said, turning to the butler, "hold yer thumb over this hole while I fetch my solderin' iron. Don't shift or there'll be a flood."

An hour went by but the plumber had not returned. Then the butler called a servant who was passing and told her to fetch 'im up. She found him enjoying lunch in the kitchen.

"The butler wants to know when you're going to release him," said she.

"Go and tell the fool to shift his thumb if he turned the water off before I started on the job," replied the plumber, grinning.

OH, WHAT A SURPRISE.

The respectable subject of the following anecdote was the victim of a slight misunderstanding, and probably he did not forget it. He went to the train one day to see his favorite daughter off. Seizing her seat, he went to the bookstall, and then returned to her window to say a parting word, as is frequently done on such occasions.

While he was away the daughter left the seat to speak to a friend and at the same time a prim old maid came in and took her place.

Unaware of the important change in the situation, father hurriedly put his face up to the window and said:

"One more kiss, sweet pet!"

In another instant the point of a cold umbrella was thrust from the window, followed by the passionate interjection: "Seat, you grey-headed wretch, seat!"

He scatted.

WHAT A SERMON.

Dr. Norman Macleod was once preaching in a district in Argyshire, where the reading of a sermon is regarded as the greatest fault of which the minister can be guilty. When the congregation dispersed, an old woman, overflowing with enthusiasm, addressed her neighbor:

"Did ye ever hear anything as grand? Wasn't that a sermon?"

All her expressions of admiration being met by a stolid glance, she shouted:

"Speak woman! Wasn't that a sermon?"

"He read it," said the other.

To which she replied with indignant emphasis:

"I wadna care if he had whistled it."

Valentine Sandwiches

Take thirty spread slices of Buttermilk Bread and fashion with a heart-shaped cookie cutter; use any filling you like, such as cheese, peanut butter, sardines, fudge or maple butter. These are excellent for Valentine parties and possess a peculiarly delicate flavor if you make them with Buttermilk Bread.

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Canadian Coin Trust in Prospect
London, Ont., Feb. 3.—It is announced that a scheme is on foot to form a merger of all the nickel and coin factories in Canada.

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LLOYD GEORGE'S LAND REFORM STIRS TORIES

not millions, of men, women and children are living under conditions with regard to wages, housing and labor conditions which ought to make this great empire hang its head in shame.

The Daily News understands that the intention in the land campaign inaugurated by Chancellor Lloyd-George, is to propose the statutory establishment of a minimum wage for agricultural laborers at least one pound (80) per week, and provision for every laborer of a cottage and plot of land held independently of farmer or landlord.

Opposition Press Say Chancellor Has Made the Announcement to Embarrass Asquith.

London, Feb. 1.—The speech last night of David Lloyd-George, chancellor of the exchequer, before the National Liberal Club, on the land question, has caused a considerable sensation. The Conservatives declare that it was a protest against Premier Asquith's refusal to make the question the leading feature of the Liberal programme of this session after Home Rule, and Mr. Lloyd-George is attempting to supplant Mr. Asquith as party leader by appealing for the party's support against his chief.

The report of his investigating committee is awaited with the deepest interest and in the meantime a small coterie of Conservatives are contributing to the party of the nation by conducting what they call "A radical plutocrat inquiry." They assert that great manufacturers who are prominent in the Liberal party, and "newly rich land owners," treat their workmen and tenants far less considerately than do the old aristocracy. They have sent to them a series of questions designed to prove this and propose to publish the results alongside the report of the chancellor's commission.

During the course of this speech, Chancellor Lloyd-George asserted that the report of his commission would prove conclusively "that hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of men, women and children are living under conditions with regard to wages, housing and labor conditions which ought to make this great empire hang its head in shame."

CORNERED.

A solicitor who is noted for his egotistical bearing recently retired to a quiet Devonshire village for a month's rest, and his air of superiority aroused the curiosity of the "daft" resident of the place, who made up his mind to investigate the matter without delay.

One morning he coolly "button-holed" the proud man of parchment and, without further parley, boldly asked him why he was so "stuck up." The solicitor smiled. "Well," said he, "I am a member of a most honorable profession, and that naturally makes one feel a little proud."

This explanation did not satisfy "Daft William."

"It's all very well what you say," said he, after a brief reflection; "but tell me what a lawyer can do."

"Oh," replied the other, anxious to humor his interrogator, "for one thing he can draw a conveyance."

"Draw a conveyance?" exclaimed William, in disgust. "Why, that's nothing. Any donkey can do that!"

The lawyer moved on.—Tit-Bits.

A confectioner in Peckham Rye, Eng., made a Christmas cake which, when completed with almond paste and sugar icing, weighed 11-4 tons, or 2,800 pounds. This cake was not baked in one piece. It was built up in large wedges of cake, each baked separately, and they were built up in eleven tiers on the plan of a bride cake. It occupied six men for a whole baker's day to build the cake and to put the sugar icing around it. To make it and bake it five men were busily employed for four days. The almond paste round the cake weighed 800 pounds, and the sugar coating and icing weighed 200 pounds.

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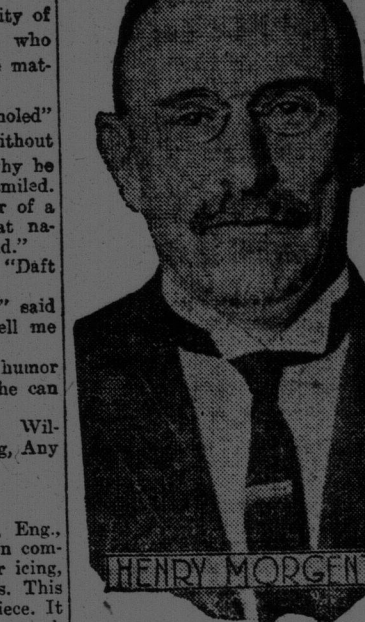
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PROBABLY IN CABINET



HENRY MORGENTHAU

New York, Feb. 3.—It is generally believed that Henry Morgenthau has been chosen by Governor Wilson for secretaries of the treasury. Mr. Morgenthau, a realty dealer at 105 Broadway, 1 charge of the financial end of Mr. Wilson's campaign.