

THE UNION ADVOCATE

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NEWCASTLE, NEW BRUNSWICK, APRIL 5, 1911

PRESBYTERIANS  
AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Betterment of Conditions for Wage  
Earners Urged, Much Poverty  
due to Bad Conditions.

London, Ont., March 31.—In his address to the London Trades and Labor Council, Rev. J. Gibson Inkter, of the First Presbyterian Church, enunciated some clauses of the proposed Presbyterian confession of faith on social problems, prepared at a meeting of the Social and Moral Reform board held in Toronto last week, to be presented to the General Assembly in July. If accepted, it places the Presbyterian Church strongly behind those who are fighting for the betterment of laboring conditions.

Some of the most striking clauses in the confession are:—  
The Church protests against undue desire for wealth, untempered pursuit of gain and the immoderate exaltation of riches; for a more equitable distribution of the products of industry ought to be made such that it can be approved by the Christian.

We realize that some poverty is due to vice, idleness or intemperance, but on the other hand, we hold that much is due to preventable disease, uncompensated accidents, lack of proper education, unemployment and other conditions, for which society is responsible, and which society ought to seek to remove.

We believe that, whenever possible, the man should be led to earn these for himself, and for those depending upon him. But that wherever, through old age, accident, sickness, or other incapacity, the family or individual is unable to become self-supporting, society should make adequate provision for them.

SURE SIGNS  
Of Kidney Trouble

If your back is constantly aching and if you experience dull shooting pains, your kidneys are out of order. If your urine is thick and cloudy or your passages frequent, scanty and painful, your kidneys and bladder are out of order. Neglect quickly brings on rheumatism, diabetes, lumbago sciatica etc., Mrs. John Wagner of 110 Hollis St., Halifax, N. S., says: "Dull shooting pains would catch me across the small part of my back and extend into my shoulders and neck, often causing me to suffer with severe headaches and spells of dizziness. Spots would dazzle before my eyes and everything would turn black. I would fall to the floor and be unable to get up again without assistance. A friend told me of Booth's Kidney Pills and I began their use. The first box gave me relief and I am now well and strong."

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COUNTY SCOTT ACT.

Nelson, N. B., March 23rd, 1911  
EDITOR UNION ADVOCATE:  
Flora Barrie, Alnwick; Wendall Connors, Blackville; were before Justice Maltby today for violation of C. T. Act. In the last two cases the witnesses sworn that they got intoxicating liquor but did not pay for it. Cases all dismissed.  
D. BALDWIN,  
Inspector.

CASTORIA  
The Kind You've Always Bought  
Sells the  
Signature  
Warranted

EDITOR'S MAIL

[For the opinions of correspondents, THE UNION ADVOCATE does not hold itself responsible.]

CIVIC AFFAIRS.

EDITOR ADVOCATE,  
DEAR SIR:  
In my last letter I endeavored to point out what has brought about our present state of municipal affairs. I had not finished my say and will not do so, with your kind indulgence, until I have given a "Definite plan for the reorganization of the town's finances, and a platform for its future government." But before going on to this we will just consider what has caused it to grow? On the surface it would appear that mismanagement and graft were playing important rolls. Add to these the "devil may care" manner in which our civic affairs are being conducted and the question is answered. We read with a feeling akin to horror, the state of affairs in Montreal, and all unmindful of worse conditions at home. Let us look back at it.

Some years ago the town fathers decided to install a light system. They began right. They imported an engineer of unquestionable skill and set him to work on plans. He reported that, by damming the mill stream and erecting the light station beside it, the cost of generating electricity (with water power) would be reduced to a minimum. The engineer was most enthusiastic over our great water power privilege and he was no fool either. He prepared plans, etc., and the town paid nearly \$500 for his services. What became of these plans? They were either lost, strayed or stolen. The next council declared that Mitchell didn't know what he was talking about. So they tossed his plans aside and built the present water power station, from the chimney of which ascends each year \$3000 in smoke and another \$3000 goes out the door in operating expenses. Had Mitchell's plans been followed consumers would now be receiving their electric supply at less than half the present rate and at a saving to the town of fuel and wages. But the ignorance of a few adventurers was allowed to prevail against the opinions of an eminent engineer and today we have a poor light at a rate so high that that rate but the rich can afford it, and instead of a valuable asset, a revenue maker, we have a system which keeps the chairman of the water and light committee guessing to make ends meet. Such is the result of blunder No. 1.

Blunder No. 2, the water system, follows as a natural consequence of blunder No. 1. We will pass over the minor blunders and call the Anderson Furniture Co. deal Blunder No. 3. With all its faults the chair factory was a blessing to the town. But here again the town fathers showed their lack of ability by entering into an agreement which was entirely inadequate to protect the town's interests. That agreement imposed no workable obligations on the company and when the smoke of the conflagration had cleared away the court decided that the town of Newcastle had been trimmed to the tune of \$6000. And yet these same men who put through the Anderson deal and mortgaged the town for \$20,000, \$6000 of which was money lost, and who congratulated themselves on the Anderson deal, worked with might and main in turning down the Beveridge papermill proposition which some of our best business men were promoting and promised greater returns than all the sawmills from Luclow to Escuminac. At a public meeting held in the town hall these gentlemen asked the citizens to support them in an offer of a small bonus and free water to the industry. But again the town's interests were sacrificed, either through ignorance or greed or both, and the promoters of the best industries now on the Miramichi were kicked out without further ceremony.

What Mr. Beveridge's offer amounted to, the present factory near Millerton can best show. Within two years its present output will be doubled and all we have of it is the mournful memory "it might have been." Such was blunder No. 4.

REDBANK  
Redbank April 3—The weather for the past week has been very disagreeable.  
Miss B. Morrison is spending a few weeks with Mrs. Wm. Sullivan.  
Mrs. J. J. Sullivan spent Saturday afternoon with Mrs. T. W. Lawlor.  
Mrs. T. Johnston who has been spending a few days in Newcastle, has returned home.  
Mr. Elmer Parks is now book keeping in Mr. Allan Tozer's store.  
Mr. Andrew Matchett passed through here recently.  
Congratulations on the arrival of a daughter at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Matchett.  
Mr. Munro of Chatham was in town on Saturday.

CASTORIA  
The Kind You've Always Bought  
Sells the  
Signature  
Warranted

Two years ago we squandered \$40,000 in the walls of a school house. That structure appears to have been commenced without any definite object in view, except to have a big building and a big debt. Had the School Board any definite object when they commenced that project? All we heard at the time was that it would lessen cost of maintenance. Today all the expense attached to two of the four schools which this building was intended to do away with is still incurred and the people of Bridgetown are clamoring, and justly, too, for better educational facilities in that quarter of the town. "How," they ask, can our children be expected to travel three miles to a school, when a modest expenditure...

Continued on page 8

Card.

To the Electors of the Town of Newcastle:  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Having been requested by a large number of electors of this town to offer myself as a candidate for the

MAYORALTY

I have consented to have my name placed in nomination for that office, and respectfully solicit your votes and support. I have served the town as an Alderman for three successive years, and my record is before you. If elected as Mayor I will, as when I was an Alderman, perform the duties of my office impartially in the interests of the town and to the best of my ability.

Your obedient servant,  
F. L. PEDOLIN, M. D.  
Newcastle, N. B., March 18, 1911

Card

To the Electors of the Town of Newcastle,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Having been requested by a number of citizens to again offer myself as a candidate for the office of Alderman, I have decided to do so, and I respectfully solicit the hearty support and co-operation of all who are in accord with the principles for which I stand. I shall not be able to personally canvass every voter, but if you elect me I will faithfully endeavor to work in the Town's best interests; preliminary to which I specially pledge myself to do all that I can to secure:

- 1.—Equal rights and opportunities to all classes of citizens, and impartial collection of taxes and enforcement of law.
- 2.—A new and thorough assessment to rate the property of all persons and corporations at its exact value, and the consequent apportionment of taxation on much fairer principles than at present obtain. This should include the taxation of vacant or unimproved land, that is being held for purposes of speculation, at the selling price asked for it by the owners, with a view of compelling the owners either to improve such premises, by erecting dwellings or workshops thereon and thus affording better means of livelihood or household accommodation at more reasonable rates for an increased population, or to sell their property, now useless, to those who are willing and anxious to build houses, stores or factories upon it and use it not only for their own selfish purposes but for the good of the community. It should also include lowering of poll and income taxes and rates upon improvements, with the aim of ultimately placing the bulk of taxation upon land values. No bonuses should be granted, and no special exemptions from taxation should be allowed, except to those who, through unavoidable misfortune, are really unable to pay.
- 3.—The provision of a sinking fund large enough to pay off our bonded indebtedness as the bonds become due, no further addition to be made to the public debt. By gradually paying off the principal, we should by and by be relieved of the enormous interest charge (now over \$10,000 a year and rapidly increasing) which wastes our revenue, consuming nearly half of the taxes but never decreasing the liability. Town affairs should henceforth be managed so that no borrowing may be necessary.

Your obedient servant,  
H. H. STUART  
Newcastle, N. B., April 4, 1911.

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