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STRONG DEFENCE TO CRITICISM OF CITY COUNCIL'S ACTION

Annual Outcry Against Heavy Taxation Bravely Met by Ald. Coleman and Mayor Fleming before Packed Audience—Prominent Merchant Also Speaks Out in Defence of Present Aldermen.

Last night from eight until eleven o'clock taken from Monday's issue of citizens called by Mayor Fleming at the opera hall, was productive of some scathing criticism in regard to the actions of the city council during the past year, but it is a question if ever the feeling of such a large and representative public meeting was changed in so short a time. From the cheers which greeted the denunciation of the council's action by ex-Mayor Fraser and ex-Ald. Doran, the change of front after Ald. Coleman had explained the cause of high tax bills, was remarkable and this was clinched, so to speak, when Mayor Fleming rose to explain that Brandon, during the past few years had gone from the village to the city state, and agreed with Ald. Coleman that the people who were ready to criticize were not nearly so ready to come forward and give their time to the onerous work which fell to the lot of every alderman. Mr. Doig, of the firm of Doig and Robertson, drew loud applause by an eloquent defence of the council and a comparison of the conditions here and in another western city, where he is also a heavy taxpayer. The question of bringing out a third candidate was hinted at and the name of Mr. D. Reesor called by Mr. Reesor did not ascend to the platform. Toward the end of the meeting the chairman allowed the procedure to develop more into a farce and hurried nominations were made and carried. Ex-Ald. Hughes was the choice for mayor, Ald. Coleman for alderman in Ward One and Ald. Giddings was favored for reelection in Ward Five. Before the meeting closed the chairman made a financial statement of the city which had been distributed and it was upon these that the bulk of the criticism lay. Singularly enough, no mention was made of the Gordon McKay Co. or the waterworks smokestack, but the open door to committee meetings was very strongly advocated.

Mayor Opens Meeting.
Mayor Fleming said he had called the meeting more because of the talk on the street and the uncertain nature of the people's information so that they could meet and discuss who was to represent them. He alluded to the unfortunate circumstance of the financial stringency hitting the city at a time when the progress was at its best. He denied press reports that he had influenced anyone to come out and hoped they would use their own judgment in the nomination of suitable men.

**MACDONALD ELECTION
DECEMBER 13.**
Ottawa, Nov. 25.—At a meeting of the cabinet last evening the dates of the Macdonald and South Lanark bye-elections were set. Nominations take place Dec. 6 and elections, Dec. 13. Immense interest is being taken in both elections.
South Lanark is vacant through the death of Hon. J. G. Haggart. Interest in this election has been quickened because of the entry into the contest of an independent Conservative candidate, Colonel Balderson and Arthur Hawkes, of "British born" fame. Dr. Hanna is the official Conservative candidate.

FAMOUS FRENCH AVIATOR KILLED

Holder of Several Altitude Records Met Death today While Flying Over Aerodrome.

Buc, France, Nov. 25.—Edmond Perreyon, one of the best known aviators of France, was killed today when his biplane capsized while he was manoeuvring over the aerodrome here. Perreyon held several altitude records. While flying alone at Buc on March 11, he attained a height of 19,850 feet. In June, he ascended with a passenger at Buc to an altitude of 16,368 feet and a little later the same month at Vienna made 15,480 feet with two passengers.

Mr. A. C. Fraser was chosen chairman and he at once invited intending candidates on the platform. Those who came up were ex-Ald. Hughes, Ald. Cater, E. G. Wiswell, A. J. Carter, G. B. Coleman.

Mr. A. C. Fraser's Criticism
The chairman alluded to the large number of ladies present and caused amusement by advocating municipal woman suffrage. Turning to the serious side he said he was sure the large attendance reflected the recognition of the gravity of the situation. He threw up his hands the other day when he received his tax bill and the excuse of civic progress did not answer for a doubling of the expenditure in one year. He did not care what the reasons were, when the tax rate reached 26 mills on the dollar people were getting discouraged. And that was not all. He had figured it out to be a total of 33 or 34 mills and it was the highest rate of any municipality in Western Canada. It was unbearable and unreasonable, but it may not be entirely the fault of the present council. He wanted to know and see who was the blame because if the city was to maintain its good name these things must be very closely examined. He believed the aldermen were not altogether to blame, but one could not help but see the lack of what he called team play in the council during the past year, and the ever present seeing-sawing.

Depreciates Secrecy.
The chairman next dealt with the press. He had no use—God knew—for newspapers, but it was the right and privilege of every taxpayer and the newspapersmen to attend every meeting and not be ruled in the same manner as the old fashioned places in Russia. There was no other place in the whole Dominion where secrecy was upheld and he did not care how bad the reporters may be or how injudiciously the newspapers may deal with public questions, the public business should be public property.

Mr. Fraser next attacked the mayor's system. It was a joke, he claimed, for a mayor to be paid \$1,200 and a publicity commissioner \$4,000. The mayor should in every sense of the word be a publicity commissioner and there should be an inducement so as to bring out a man of the right calibre. Reverting to taxation, he said the existing conditions here were such as to drive out people instead of coming in.

A Thorough Examination.
The council should at the beginning of the year see where they stood, even if they engaged a couple of practical business men. These men should go through every department and thus see exactly what was likely to be required. Then they should hold a representative meeting of all ratepayers and let suggestions be made so that intelligent opinion could be brought to bear, so that when the spring opened all would be ready and after obtaining the consent of the electors go on with the work. He strongly objected to the way of doing work, running up the taxes and then consulting the people because the latter had no option but to pay.

The speaker next attacked the financial arrangements, saying it was lamentable to think that they had to look to any bank for aid. On the other hand, it should be all the banks of the city looking for city patronage. The council should not proceed one inch until the money had been fully provided for.

Again referring to the press he deplored the frivolity in discussing a man's politics and urged for the absolute elimination of any such matter from a municipal contest.

More Condemnation.

Ex-Ald. S. C. Doran, the next speaker, said he deplored the iniquity of men offering themselves for office, thinking it should be for the ratepayers to choose whom they thought able to serve them capably. He too, strenuously condemned the present high rate of taxes, and went on to give statistical information as prepared and printed by the city treasurer, an official to whom by the way, he paid great tribute. He termed the present state of affairs as a periodical hold-up, this being the third in his long experience. He did not blame the bank. In 1907 the bank sent an order to sell debentures at 84 at 4-13 for 30 years.

Continued on Page 5

CARNEGIE IS HAPPY

New York, Nov. 25.—Today is the seventy-eighth anniversary of Andrew Carnegie's birth and he is very happy over the event. He says he is pleased with the world in general and thinks everything happens for the best. At present, however, the steel magnate does not contemplate giving any more fortunes away.

DARING HOLD-UP AT WINNIPEG BY MASKED THIEVES

Secure Upwards of \$500 in Cash and Jewelry From Two Women and Get Clear Away

Winnipeg, Man., Nov. 25.—Forcing their way at the point of revolvers into the apartment of Mrs. J. Lennox, of Suite 11, Assiniboia block, on Assiniboine avenue, last night, masked thieves held up and robbed Mrs. Lennox and her friend Gloria Douglas and departed with upwards of \$500 in cash and jewelry, escaping unmolested through the front door of the building. A suspect has been arrested in connection with the robbery and is being held by the police.

Store Destroyed.

Grouard, Nov. 25.—The store of the Northern Mercantile Co., valued at \$6,000, and stock of \$10,000, was destroyed by fire through unknown cause. There was no wind blowing, but it is probable the city would have suffered had it not been for snow and ice on the roofs.

DIED AFTER BEING STRUCK BY AUTO

Vancouver Man Victim of Fatal Accident—Chauffeur Detained by the Police.

Vancouver, Nov. 25.—Jas. Drake, aged 67, died last night after being struck by an automobile in which were John Williams, a millionaire brewer of Vancouver and his wife. Alex. Gray, who was chauffeur for the Duke of Connaught on the viceregal visit here last year, was in charge of the car and was detained by the police pending the coroner's inquiry.

Tug Continues Search.

Port Arthur, Ont., Nov. 25.—The tug Arbutus which has been out for some days searching for the missing steamer Leafield, reports picking up ten feet of topmast, but there is nothing to indicate what steamer it is from. The tug will remain out some time longer commencing today a circuit of Lake Royal.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN AUSTRALIA

Manchester Women Endorse View Taken by Australian Senate.

Manchester, Eng., Nov. 25.—At a woman's suffrage meeting held here last night the resolution was read as passed by the Senate of the Australian Commonwealth, declaring that woman suffrage in Australia had had most beneficial results and recommending the same to other nations.

**TWO MONTHS FOR
MOTORMAN THIEF
AT SASKATOON**

Saskatoon, Sask., Nov. 25.—Ass. Eller, motorman, was sentenced to two months in jail today on a charge of pilfering a municipal railway fare box last summer of seventy-five cents.

**SEVEN THOUSAND
WENT ON STRIKE**

Employees of General Electric Co. at Shenectady, N.Y., Walk Out.

Schenectady, N.Y., Nov. 25.—Seven thousand employees of the General Electric Co. struck work this morning shortly after 8 o'clock. The men and women walked out while a conference was in progress between General Manager Emmens, Supt. Smith and union officials.

MRS. PANKHURST TO GIVE ADDRESS AT NEW YORK

Social and Economic Wrongs Will be Discussed With Daring Freedom

New York, Nov. 25.—The first of a series of public meetings in which great social and economic wrongs are to be discussed with daring freedom, takes place at the Eltinge theatre this afternoon. Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, British militant suffragette, is one of the principal speakers. Since the writings of her daughter, Christabel Pankhurst, have been recently suppressed in England, the views to be advanced by the militant leader are naturally of interest.

**BOATS BEGIN VOYAGE
ACROSS LAKE TODAY**

Port Arthur, Ont., Nov. 25.—The Alberta, Huronic and Keewatin, which with other boats are sheltering at White Fish, taking refuge from a north-west gale, have pulled out and are now crossing the lake enroute here.

THIRTEEN IS NO HOODOO FOR HIM

Capt. Foote of Steamer Hamonic, Has Superstitions Regarding Much Dreaded Number.

Sarnia, Ont., Nov. 25.—The last trip down of the steamer Hamonic shows that Captain Foote is not at all superstitious regarding the number 13. Captain Foote left Port Arthur on the 13th day of November, 1913, having on board the Hamonic 13 first class passengers and 13 second class passengers, and 13 tons of flour. The steamer crossed Lake Superior from Port Arthur to the Soo in 13 hours and 13 minutes.

London Barrieted Dead

London, Nov. 25.—W. H. Bartram, one of the oldest active barristers in the city, died suddenly this morning from heart failure. He was 68 years of age and had practiced in London since young manhood.

MOOSE JAW TAX RATE IS ALMOST DOUBLED IN YEAR

Debutante Interest and School Board Play Prominent Part in Heavy Increases.

The following, a portion of an article Monday evening the meeting of the Moose Jaw Morning News, will be of special interest to Brandon people in view of last night's citizens' meeting. It reads:

"Very much of the criticism upon civic affairs this year has been centered on the expenditure. There appears to have been, say most people who give thought to these matters, so little done for the amount raised. As the tax levy for 1913 is almost double that for 1912 there may be some justification for questioning whether the benefits have been commensurate to the outlay. But one of the reasons for the increased expenditure is the prodigality of former years. The largest individual increase in the total expenditure this year is in debenture interest, the annual return for money that was borrowed in years gone by, to give the city the facilities considered necessary at those times.

Another big increase in the amount raised by taxes was caused by the demand of the school board for a much larger sum than last year. Debenture interest and school board outlay together account for more than half the total increase in expenditure this year.

**OFFICIAL DENIAL TO
RUMORED ILL HEALTH
OF ROYAL DUCHESS**

Ottawa, Ont., Nov. 25.—The report that the health of the Duchess of Connaught is such as to cause anxiety was given a definite and authoritative denial this morning by Arthur Sladen, secretary to His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught. Mr. Sladen asked the press to announce that since the return of the duchess to Canada her health has really improved. He said he failed to understand how such misleading reports had gone abroad as the health of the duchess was quite satisfactory.

**PREMIER BORDEN TO
VISIT WASHINGTON**

Washington, D.C., Nov. 25.—Problems arising between Canada and the United States over the new tariff law will be discussed this week when Premier Borden visits Washington and calls on the President. He will be entertained next Friday night at a dinner given by Secretary of State Bryan.

**LARGE MAJORITY
OF EMIGRANTS
CROSS ATLANTIC**

Interesting Figures on Rush of Emigrants from Great Britain to Other Parts of World.

London, Nov. 25.—In October of the 32,000 emigrants who left the United Kingdom, 10,000 went to British America and 10,000 to the United States. Only 19 per cent of the total Irish emigrants went to other parts of the British empire, while 80 per cent went to the United States.

Miss Logan Marries D. W. Dilworth

New York, Nov. 25.—Miss Edith Logan, youngest daughter of Mrs. John A. Logan, became the bride of Deyves W. Dilworth this afternoon in St. Thomas' church. Mrs. Henri St. Paul de Sney acted as her sister's maid of honor.

Another Body Found.

Southampton, Ont., Nov. 25.—A second body from the Hydrus was found on the beach here this morning. It may be that of Roy Somerville, of Detroit, a waiter.

CONTROL OF OCEAN FREIGHT RATES IS DIFFICULT PROBLEM

This is Declaration Made by Chairman Drayton in Report on Atlantic Rate Situation Made Public at Ottawa Today—Suggests Placing of Matter in the Hands of Imperial Trade Commission.

Ottawa, Nov. 25.—Hon. Geo. E. Foster, the acting prime minister, this morning made public the report recently placed in the hands of the government by Chairman Drayton, who went to Great Britain last summer to investigate the Atlantic rate situation. Mr. Drayton in his report states that the British Board of Trade is at the present moment indisposed to agree to the appointment of a joint commission including Canada and the United States for the reason that such a board could not be constituted without legislation. That would take a year and meantime the Imperial Trade Commission which is hearing evidence on the subject would be in Canada.

Mr. Drayton refers to the fact that Lord Crewe wrote to the government of Canada in 1910 in regard to the matter but did not receive a reply. However, as the result of a motion made by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the Imperial Conference of 1911 the royal commission of imperial trade was formed. Mr. Drayton adds further, that if this dominion trades commission could take up the matter, and made an interim report the question could not be in better hands.

Mr. Drayton emphasizes the fact that government control of Atlantic freight rates is difficult, because of certain conditions applying to railways which do not apply to ocean carriers. He deals at some length with the difficulty shippers experience in securing full cargoes for eastward trips, but asserts that the matter is one calling for a full and complete inquiry.

Mr. Drayton at the outset pointed out that the question is one which has already engaged the attention of the British board of trade, which in 1910 communicated to the under secretary of state regarding it. In that communication the board saw great difficulties in the establishment of a joint tribunal for the control of ocean freight rates, but expressed the opinion that it should have power to appoint competent persons to investigate the matter. They saw no reason why the imperial government should not discuss with the Canadian government the question of holding a joint enquiry into rates charged and facilities afforded by shipping companies engaged in the trade between the United Kingdom and Canada.

Mr. Drayton states that with the above object in view, he endeavored to obtain the appointment of a joint commission to make a thorough and complete investigation of rates and charges of ocean carriers' insurance charges, the operation of terminal and port authorities, and the traffic generally. He had also suggested that the commission should advise as to what legislation, if any, should be procured by the imperial parliament or the parliament of Canada, in connection with the matter.

He further represented that it was

Continued on Page 8.

**BRANDON DRIVING
CLUB PROSPECTS
ARE VERY BRIGHT**

Annual Meeting Will Be Held in Few Days' Time—Excellent Season Is Promised.

The first sight of snow seems to have created quite a spirit of enthusiasm among the local horsemen. They have not as yet decided on the date of the organization meeting, but it will be around the first of the month. The date will be published so that all the members can make arrangements to get together. The secretary reports the financial standing of the club to be much better than it has been since he took office over five years ago. The financial statement will be published later.

Several of the horsemen here have purchased new horses, and will take part in the races. There is Marshall Gammon with Peter Direct, Art Sutherland with Bounce Boy, W. Crozier is getting a new horse which will be here in a few days. Lou Wells has Ross Woodford, Peter Powell with his black colt, and Dr. Cox with Cecilian Jim; Con Falls has two starters; J. McGregor has his good colt by Cecilian Jim; W. L. Elder with Johnny; W. Sproule with Dixie Girl and Izettar; Bob White has a good young pacer, Lou Nellis, Midnight Direct; E. J. Pelletier is getting a new one; J. H. Matthews is also getting a new one; Geo. Warren has Joe S., having sold within the last week his good pacer Jubilee and the old war horse, Black Joe. One must not forget B. C. Nell with the big chestnut colt Barney Geers, also W. Bertrand with his colt Maybe Good. It is understood that the secretary, Mr. John Fry, has a starter which will be here shortly. The old president, E. D. Wallace, has moved to Portage la Prairie and he will not take part in the races this winter.

The club members in general are figuring on having a large meet on Christmas and New Year's. Several of the members have suggested putting up some small purses and inviting the neighboring towns, say Souris, Melita, Virden, and probably Moosomin, and the idea seems to have met with the approval of quite a number.

**WOULD CONTINUE
GIVING BONUSES
FOR INDUSTRIES**

Prince Albert, Sask., Nov. 25.—I am unalterably opposed to any legislation that will restrict the present power of municipalities in so far as the bonusing of industries is concerned," said Walter E. Gunn, secretary of the Board of Trade when interviewed regarding the proposed legislation of the Saskatchewan parliament. He placed emphasis on every word in running over the reasons for his determined stand, stating that the entire matter had been threshed out in Winnipeg at the last annual meeting of the Associated Boards of Trade of Western Canada. This influential organization, after the most mature consideration, had voted to continue bonusing.

"Why should a municipality be considered a goat?" asked Mr. Gunn. "The men who conduct its affairs are part and parcel of an empire that does tremendous bonusing, of a Dominion that follows the same habit, and of the men in their private business give bonuses to employees as well as to customers. Here is the question: Does a man lose his mentality the second he enters municipal life?"

**GOOD ROADS AND
HAIL INSURANCE
TO BE DISCUSSED**

Portage la Prairie, Man., Nov. 25.—Good roads, hail insurance and the workings of the new provincial act governing the registration of vital statistics, especially as to the fees allowed to municipal officers who act as registrars, will be the chief subject of discussion at the tenth annual convention of the Union of Manitoba Municipalities which opens here this afternoon. Upward of 100 delegates from all parts of the province had registered at noon and it is fully expected that 200 will be in attendance at the night session. In the absence of Mayor Taylor, who is busy at the assize court, Ald. Metcalfe of Portage la Prairie will welcome the delegates. Hon. Hugh Armstrong, who accepted an invitation to address the convention today, is not expected to be present, as he is understood to have left for La Pas. The program for today is more or less formal and includes the receiving of reports. Dr. Stewart of Ninette Sanitarium will address the convention tonight on the work and needs of that institution and the provincial highway commissioner, Mr. McGillivray, will talk on good roads and the government's intentions in that respect. The convention will be formally opened by the president, Reeve R. G. Wallis, of Morton, whose address will call attention to the fact that the question of good roads is the most important to be dealt with by the convention and is in fact one of the greatest questions municipal men of today have to consider.

The Big Y.M.C.A. Meeting
