PROGRESS.

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CITIZENS MEAN TO WIN.

GRAND RECEPTION OF MESSRS. PUGSLEY AND MCLAUGHLIN.

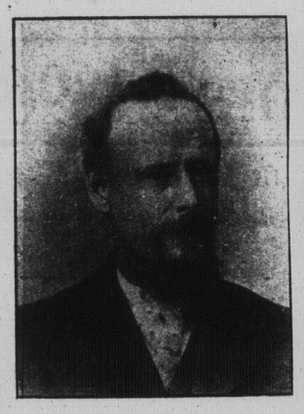
Splendid Enthusiasm at the Ratification Meeting—An Old Time Gathering—The Platform of the Citizens' Party—A Stand on Remedial Legislation.

If enthusiasm means anything the independent party in the city and county of St. John mean to win on the 23rd of June.

The ratification meeting in Sutherland's hall on Union street, Thursday, was one of the old time political meetings. Such a gathering at one day's notice has seldom been seen in this city. The place was thronged and the earnestness of the audience was wonderful. When Chairman W. F. Hatheway and the candidates, Messrs. D. J. McLaughlin and Wm. Pugsley entered they received a grand reception.

Then the meeting opened and went with a dash and swing from start to finish. The platform was read by the chairman of the platform committee, E. S. Carter, and its adoption was promptly moved and seconded by Messrs. Magee and Hatherwood. The complete text of this document, which will appeal to every patriotic citizen is as follows:

"The committee of citizens of St. John appointed in connection with the movement to protest against this port being ignored in the matter of the fast Atlantic



D. J. MCLAUGHLIN.

steamship service, and to endeavor to avert this grave injustice, submit the following platform, upon which the citizens' candidates will ask support in the coming election:

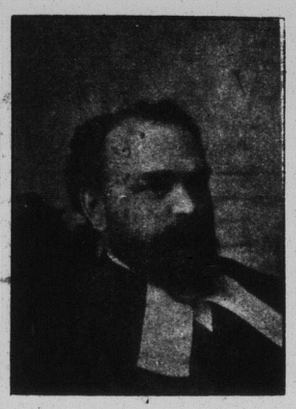
"We protest against the government ignoring the just claims of the port of St. John either to be made one of the winter terminal ports of the Fast Atlantic steamers, or to have the proposed contract so amended as to allow to tenderers the option of sending the steamers either to St. John or Halifax, and in the name of national good faith and public honor, we demand that the pledges so repeatedly made to the people of this city and province by the leaders of the liberal-conservative party, speaking for and in the government, that St. John would be placed on an equal footing with Halifax in connection with the fast Atlantic service, be now fulfilled.

"Relying upon these pledges, this city and province have incurred a heavy expenditure in equipping the port with the facilities necessary for the accommodation of large ocean steamers, and the proposal of the government to break faith with our people is calculated to arouse the deepest feelings of indignation among all classes. United and decisive action is necessary if this blow at our commercial prosperity is to be averted, and it is felt that the most effectual way to prevent the consumation of the wrong with which we are threatened is for our people to elect representatives who will go to parliament under obligation to no party, but solemnly bound first and always to secure justice for this city and province from the government and parliament of the dominion.

"Against the sale, lease or transfer in any shape or form, of the Intercolonial railway to the Canadian Pacific Railway company, or any other corporation, we enter our most earnest protest. From the recent systematic attempts in certain newspapers throughout the dominion, closely identified with the Canadian Pacific Railway company, to create a public sentiment in favor of the transfer, signs are not wanting that great corporation is desirous of securing control of the Intercolonial.

"Some years ago Sir John Macdonald, the then great chieftain of the liberal conservative party, did not hesitate to declare the policy of his government, which was that the Intercolonial should neither be abandoned as a government railway or be transfered. The fact the minister of finance, who is one of the representatives in the government from this province, and whose duty it is to guard its interests, has declined to give any assurance upon this important question in answer to the request of the citizens' committee, seems to be entirely without justification and calculated to excite the deepest apprehension.

"Closely connected with the question of the transfer of the Intercolonial railway and the fast Atlantic service, arises the question of the building of the Harvey-Salisbury line with a view to shortening the distance to Halifax, and which would have the effect of side-tracking St. John and making it the terminus of a branch railway instead of being, as our people



DR. WILLIAM PUGSLEY.

have fondly hoped it would be, on the line of travel and traffic between the old world and the new. This railway would involve the expenditure of a vast sum of money; the saving in distance, if any, would not exceed thirty miles, and its construction is not demanded in the public interest.

"In view of the vast importance which to the future of this city and province will be the action of the government of the day in reference to the matters above referred to, we call down upon all patriotic citizens to come out from the ranks of the party with which they may have been allied in the past, and in the coming election speak with a united voice, in favor of equal right and fair play for this city, whose progress and prosperity are of vastly more importance than mere party triumph."

The wild cheering that followed the adoption of the platform showed what the people thought of it. Again and again was the applause given and it was only exceeded when the motion to ratify the candidates was carried without a dissenting voice. Then with one accord the audience rose to their feet and cheered again and again for the men of their choice. The candidates were astonished beyond measure at the enthusiasm and it was really not to be wondered at that they were at a loss at first for words to express their appreciation.

In spite of the fact that the machine parties have insisted that remedial legislation was at the bottom of the independent movement there was no mention of that question in the platform of the citizens but before Messrs. Pugsley and McLaughlin's selection was ratified those gentlemen in a plain honest fashion stood up and stated their views upon that question. The people like such a course as that, they hate the cowardly manner the machine candidates treated this question and the cordial reception of their nominee's position on this great dominion issue was one of the features of the meeting. The morning papers endeavored in their reports to make it appear that this was the important issue there, but it any voter will read the speeches of the candidates they will not find a reference to the question. The statement Mr. Pugsley read on behalf of himself and Mr. McLaughlin was as follows:—

"We feel that before our nomination is ratified, it is due to the electors whose support we are seeking in the coming election, that we should state in plain and unmistakable terms our view upon the question of remedial legislation, upon which we shall, if elected to parliament, be called upon to cast our votes as the representatives of these constituencies. We believe that the matter of education properly belongs to the several provinces to deal with, and that the fact of the legislature of Manitoba, acting within its undoubted constitutional powers, having established a system of non-sectarian schools in place of the law providing for separate schools enacted after Manitoba became a part of the dominion, imposes no obligation on the dominion parliament to force upon that province a separate school system. We are agreed that parliament is not called upon to legislate on the subject, and we are totally opposed to and shall by all proper means strenuously resist such legislation."

D. J. M'LAUGHLIN.
WILLIAM PUGSLEY.

PROGRESS has not space at this late hour to speak of the many features of the meeting, but there were more cordial surprises on every hand than anyone can picture. Some who never voted the conservative ticket and others who never voted for a liberal shook hands in their gladness to meet for a common cause and a common purpose and work together. The eagerness to work on committees and the many offers of services in different ways augurs well for success in the campaign.

THE CHIEF GETS A JOB.

BUT HE SAID SOME NAUGHTY SWEAR WORDS FIRST.

Mr. Jones the Inspector was not Assisted by the Police—Two Assistant Inspectors Appointed—Friendship's Golden Cord Severed—Cause of Trouble.

Under the new liquor license act, an inspector was appointed whose duty it is to see that the law is properly observed. Mr. J. B. Jones got the appointment at a salary of about $500 00 per annum. Previous to Mr. Jones' appointment and under the old act, Chief Clark held that office, for which a yearly salary of $400.00 was given. When Mr. Jones went into office Chief Clark went out, so did the extra $400 00 per year.

It is not likely that the chief liked the advent of Mr. Jones into his (Clarks) former easy position as the following episode will show.

It used to be a regular thing on Saturday evenings for some violaters of the license act to be reported for selling without a license, or after hours. This was when Chief Clark was inspector. Under Mr. Jones there has been little or no reporting. This may be because Mr. Jones is green at the business, or it may be that Chief Clark was not over anxious to assist Mr. Jones, at any rate the revenue from the liquor sellers who violated the act, dropped off so much under Mr. Jones, that the commissioners began to look into matters. To them it became apparent that Mr. Jones was working alone, and that though the police were supposed to aid the inspector, they had not done so, yet they had never refused their assistance in visiting or raiding. However, the commissioners saw that the chief was perhaps not heart and hand with Mr. Jones, so they thought how best to win him over.

After a meeting or two held in chairman Knodell's office, it was concluded that the police must be taken in, in order to gain their assistance.

The outcome of these meetings was the announcement that two assistant inspectors would be appointed from the police force. This, thought the commissioners would act as a solution of any jealouies that might arise between police and inspector in working for the new lisense act.

The commissioners meant well, in their efforts to get both factions working smoothly; but alas they made a mistake, for they were the means of breaking the tie that bound the hearts of two of the heads of the St. John police force viz, Chief of Police Clark and Captain Fred Jenkins.

They love each other no longer and they have the office of assistant inspector of licenses at the paltry salary of say $100 per year, to blame for it.

The public know that most all the raids made last year were by Captain Jenkins with Sergeant Baxter or some of the other officers,

When it was announced that extra inspectors were to be put on, Captains Jenkins and Hastings immediately put in applications. These two men were just what was wanted so said the commissioners and so said everybody but Chief Clark who stormed and raved and even went so far as to say a few naughty swear words.

'Tis said the chief was so angry at the captains application for the positions, that he forgot himself and swore vengence on them. He raved and stamped and threatened if the men got the positions there would be vacanies on the force.

The chief did not hear from any outside source that Jenkins and Hastings had applied for the job, he got it direct from Captain Jenkins who went into his office about the form of application. This took place on Saturday last.

On Monday Captain Jenkins went to the commissioners and withdrew his application. The same day Captain Hastings tendered his humble apologies to the chief and, the next day the chief, sent in an application and got the appointment.

It is understood that Chief Clark succeeded in downing Capt. Jenkins and getting the appointment and the $100 per year, it is also understood that Captain Jenkins got nothing but an opinion of his superior officer. The captain has that, free, it comes after an acquaintance of five years but it is lasting and is perhaps worth more than $100 per year.

The commissioners say the appointment was made so that the police and inspector might work in harmony and without jealousy of any kind between them. The salary is so small that the wonder is, that two such good friends as Jenkins and Clark should squabble over it. Just now the chief gives his orders and the captain obeys, but they don't go driving together anymore.

They Put Him in the Cradle.

On Saturday evening last a party of young men from around town rode up to a river hotel on their bicycles and put up for Sunday and the holiday following. As usual the crowd was very jolly, among them being a Canterbury street clerk, a shipping office employee and another young man making of the party an excellent trio. The little fellow had to take all the fun that was poked at him in good part. When night came the young men went to rest. Thirteen of the twenty wanted to sleep in the one bed and it has not yet been decided whether it was the unlucky number or the weakness of the structure that caused the bed to cave in but that is just what it did ultimately, It was soon discovered by one of the party that a crib in which the proprietor's wife rocked the baby to sleep was standing in the lower hallway. It was brought upstairs and with one accord the party took hold of the small man of the party and tied him in it. He was a very talkative and strong baby, however, and it was not long before the practical jokers were seeking shelter from the flying contents of the crib, behind closed doors.

DON'T BELIEVE IN MATRIMONY.

For Clerks With Less Than a Thousand Dollar Salary.

A bank clerk in St. John, who has heard of a recent marriage in Halifax, news of which was the other day made public in the sister city, feels constrained to bemoan the matrimonially-inclined junior bank clerk. The marriage in question was that of one of the staff of one of the smaller banking institutions in Halifax to a charming Spring Garden road lady, the daughter of a wealthy citizen of the Nova Scotian capital. It took place nearly three weeks ago, but it was only a few days ago that it became known to the relatives of the happy couple. The hardships of the case consists in this, our banking friend thinks, that the young man was in imminent danger of losing his position because he had thus married while his salary was below $1,000 annually.

The hardship comes in at this point, that, no matter how deeply in love, the poor bank clerk must remain a bachelor till his salary reaches the $1,000 mark. No matter how fervent a lover he may be, and how warmly his affections may be reciprocated, if his salary does not reach $1,000 a year he must crush his amorous feelings or sit down to a half hopeless wait of years, perhaps, till the bank considers his services worth a paltry $1,000.

What a host of young men must be thus kept in non matrimonial bondage in Halifax. In that city there are seven banking houses, each with a large staff of clerks, not one of whom dare, on pain of instant dismissal, marry while his salary remains below the matrimonial minimum. Lists of marriageable young men in the sister city have been published from time to time. It would not be uninteresting for some of the enterprising journalists in Halifax to publish a list of the meligible bank clerks—ineligible on account of their pay.

An example of this banking tyranny was furnished in the case of the young man whose marriage caused the grumble of the St. John man. The dread of the consequences to him should their matrimonial alliance become known caused the couple to endeavor to make it a secret, and for weeks it was such, not even the parents of either of the contracting parties being allowed to know anything about it. When at last the fact became known it seems the young lady's father had to hie himself down to the bank president's office. Long consultation showed that there was one way out of the difficulty, and only one. That was that the bride's parents should give the bank a guarantee that the difference between the salary earned by the clerk and the $1,000 necessary to permit of marriage, should be regularly paid to the son-in-law if this bond were not given the poor young banker would perforce walk the plank so far as his banking experience was concerned. The good, kind-hearted father-in-law generously gave the hand and the bank retains the services of its clerk, while two hearts are made happy once more.

Yet this St. John bank clerk, who heard of these troubles of his Halifax brother in the business, finds it hard to reconcile the story with his notions of British freedom. He says the rule is more like that which he would expect in a despotic kingdom like Russia than in this free country. And this case, he says, is not the only instance of the kind in down-trodden Halifax, for a well-known clerk in the branch of a banking house doing business in that city, a few years ago, had to make it apparent to the bank officials that his bride's relatives had given her a substantial dowry sufficient to make up the deficiency in his salary, before he was allowed to wed her.

Evidently the bank directors and officials think matrimony and banking on a small salary do not go well together. Halifax with its seven or eight banks must be a place of considerable bachelor complaining, but whether the clerks or the young ladies complain most is a question.

PROGRESS' complaining informant now says that he learns that the father's mission regarding the bank clerk's salary was not successful, and that the young man's usefulness to the institution has been declared to be gone. He will have to seek other employment, simply an account of that tyrannical salary rule, even in the face of an offer to make up the deficiency. The St. John bank clerk who brings us this news says his sympathy and his indignation are strangely blended, and he wants the grievance ventilated.

FOUND AN ALTO SINGER.

AND THEY PRACTISED ON THE STAIRS IN THE DARK.

A Sunday School Superintendent Makes a Startling Discovery—The Tenor and the Alto Have a Quiet Little Evening Practice—They Were Searching for a Book.

There's a breach in the inner circle of the choir of a well known city church, occasioned by the wonderful discoveries a week or so ago of the Sunday school superintendent. There has been a least two members of the congregation who have resigned as an outcome of these discoveries. One was the leading tenor of the choir and the other an alto member of the congregation who intended singing there, had not these afore mentioned discoveries been made.

The first intimination the minister had that something was wrong was about a fortnight ago, when he received a notice asking him to hold an investigation of alleged improper conduct on the part of a male member of the choir and a lady member of the congregation. The first the public knew of the affair was by an item in last weeks PROGRESS relative to two persons using the church as a trysting place on Saturday night there being no occasion for them to be there at that time or that day. The investigation was called and several witnesses examined, among which were the tenor and the alto, the superintendent and a friend.

The superintendent told how he with a friend on his regular Saturday night visit to the basement of the church, with tracts for Sunday reading, had heard a noise in the church above. The superintendent and his friend got a lamp, and began a search for burgulars. Instead they found the tenor and prospective alto on the gallery stairs in the dark. The tenor, tis true, was cool, but the fair alto, was somewhat confused, she held a hymn book in one hand, and her hat in the other.

Explanations were given but this did not prevent the superintendent from reporting the matter to the pastor of the church.

The tenor in answer to the accusation explained that the choir needed an alto. On Friday the members of the choir decided to extend a call one to commence duty on Sunday.

The Tenor who was also director, decided to hunt up an alto up. On Saturday he procured the services of one who, by the way, was an old friend of his, and as she was not thoroughly up in the music, Mr. tenor agreed to accompany her to the church to get a book which she said was in her pew. The choir master had a key so he went into the church to get the hymnal. After a search he was obliged to ask the lady to step in and direct him to the pew. Together the two went in search of the book, this was between 8 and 9 o'clock Saturday night and while searching around, they heard somebody enter the church below. The lady foolishly became agitated, and refused to leave the body of the church while the intruders were in the basement. These intruders, eventually proved to be the persons mentioned above and they hearing the sound of footsteps overhead, got a light and investigated the cause.

The footsteps, when they saw the light of a lamp approaching hurried to the front vestibule of the church and from there to the gallery stairway where they were over taken by the two men from below.

The tenor and the lady at the investigation both gave plausible facts about their being there. The tenor said the reason there was no light in the church was that he did not dare light a jet as they were the auer and he once lighted one wrong and exploded it.

The statements of the two were that they were innocent of any wrong, except the lady's foolishness, for hiding instead of coming down stairs boldly when she was innocent of any cause for fear.

The result of the inquiry was that the tenor and alto were exonerated and given the right hand of fellowship. The matter might have dropped there, had not the superintendent remarked that the visits of the choir master to the church at unseasonable hours with ladies was of frequent occurence though of course there was always the possibility of lost hymn books to be looked up and interesting altos to train for Sunday. This to the tenor's ways of thinking was a direct reflection upon his reputation and he was so deeply wounded that he immediately handed in his resignation.

Flowers for Decoration Day.

It is not often that a Canadian florist sends across the border such an immense quantity of flowers as that shipped by Mrs. W. H. Jones of Germain street this week to be used in the "Decoration Day" ceremonies in Calais and Eastport. Thousands of roses carnations, lilies and many other varieties were shipped on Friday by train and boat to fill the orders received.

He Silenced the Architect.

While one of the city courts was sitting the other day the judge was constantly interrupted and annoyed by the incessant haranguing of a well-known architect who was loudly discussing politics with a friend under the court window. It was almost impossible for the court to proceed, so opening the casement his honor called out "Look here J——if you don't stop shouting I'll have you arraigned for contempt of court!" The architect moved on.

HE PAID FOR HER SUPPER.

But Wasn't Invited to Her Room—His Hand-painted Brow.

The majority of the youths about town have voted the performances at the institute this week by Rose Sydell and her English gaiety girls, a howling success, in fact the best thing of the kind that has visited the city for many years. It was not only the boys who patronized the show. Dignified heads of families were there and vociferously applauded the gyrations and contortions the of fair performers; the more suggestive the song the more enthusiastic the applause showered upon the singer.

The company comprised a number of good looking chorus and ballet girls whose charms were advertised through the medium of life size posters found upon every available wall or fence in the city, The effect of the posters was in many instances heightened by the artistic propensities of the small boy and the result was very startling.

On the opening night the usual coterie of young men who congregate around the entrance of places of amusement were on hand in faultless get ups in anticipation of the conquest of the girls, which in their admirers eyes was only a question of a very short time. When the performance closed a grand rush was made for the stage exit. Before the gallants could summon up courage to address the objects of their admiration the latter had flitted softly away, unmindful of the dissapointment and chagrin they left behind.

Two of the most ardent of the admirers of the gaiety girls, and two of the most disappointed at their lack of success on the evening referred to, are very well known around town and in society circles.

Both had fixed their affections upon the same sprightly and pretty girl but the combined battery did not secure even a passing glance from the maiden in question. Both were feeling decidedly miserable over their failure. As a natural consequence they drifted together and the matter was discussed on the way home and during the course of conversation a bet was made by the insurance man that he would walk home the following evening with the prettiest maid in the company. He did. He went to the institute next evening, sat in a front seat, ogled the girls throughout the performance, and when the show was over waited until the lady upon whom he had decided should appear at the door. When she came he accosted her in a familiar manner and tried to engage her in conversation but she turned a deaf ear to his flattery and absolutely refused to say a word until just as they were nearing a well known restaurant her manner suddenly changed and she became as pleasant and affable as she had been silent a short time before. In his delight over his success the young man in his satisfaction set up a supper that is said to have cost him a nice penny, but the supper was a good one and if the young man put up his watch as security why it was nobody's business, especially as he redeemed it next day.

When the couple reached the lady's hotel she halted for a moment to thank and dismiss her gallant escort who had no intention however of being so coolly disposed of. When there was no possible excuse for a longer talk on the sidewalk and he had been denied the pleasure of attending her to the parlor for a little further chat, he attempted to take a tender farewell. His arm was partly around her when a dimpled hand was planted square in his face and for a moment myriads of stars danced before his startled vision.

Next morning the young man made some elaborate explanation to his friends in regard to the beautiful black hand painted dado that decorated a portion of his face. And the girl appeared next night in her usual work "with a naughty little twinkle in her eye."

Replenishing Their Stock

Attention is directed to the advertisement of J. E. Whittaker & Co., in another page. Messrs. Whittaker & Co. have lately been very noticeably improving their store and replenishing their stock, and to day they advertise a special cut-rate sale on white agate ware. Housekeepers who have once used these goods need no words of praise on them. Progress simply recommends its readers to wait for and patronize this sale, feeling sure they will not regret it.

Closing of the Bicycle Contest.

PROGRESS Bicycle contest will close tonight and all orders must be in to-day. Those who are in for the bike will be announced early next week. PROGRESS brings this contest to a close on a holiday for the school boys, which will give them a good chance to hustle around for more orders and make themselves sure. Orders out of the city will be received up to Tuesday night, June 2nd.