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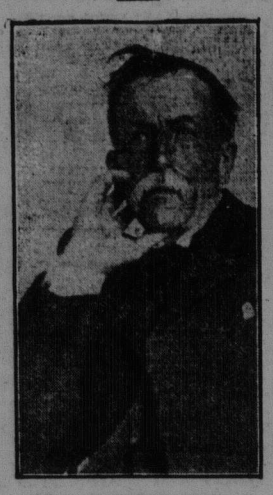
FINE START MADE ON THE YORK COUNTY CAMPAIGN

Provincial Government Party Opens Fight With Five Meetings.

Dr. Morehouse Regarded as a Sure Winner--Opposition Ranks Badly Split.



DR. O. E. MOOREHOUSE.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, Mar. 19.—The provincial government party opened their campaign in the York county byelection with five fine public meetings Saturday night in the interests of the candidature of Dr. O. E. Morehouse, in the byelection on March 30th. No campaign in York county ever started off more auspiciously or with victory by a tremendous majority certain.

Along the St. John river valley parishes, the people will vote for Dr. Morehouse to strengthen the hands of Premier Hazen in giving to the St. John valley the railway facilities they have so long desired and throughout the whole county there are evidences of a tremendous majority at the polls on the 30th.

The opposition ranks are badly split up, many of those who have been prominent in former fights, having rebelled so strongly against offering any opposition to Dr. Morehouse's candidature that they will now give him their support.

One of the finest meetings ever held at Burtt's Corner which is near Dr. Morehouse's home, was that addressed on Saturday night by Premier Hazen and A. R. Slipp, M. P. P., while Hon. George J. Colter also spoke at the conclusion of the meeting. The premier was given an ovation and made a fine fighting speech, the audience of 300 or more, being warmly appreciative and sympathetic.

Another large meeting was held at Stanley which will prove the same stronghold for the Hazen administration as of old. Dr. Morehouse, the candidate, F. M. Sproule, M. P. P., and Frank H. Everett, of this city, were the speakers.

The other meetings held on Saturday included enthusiastic gatherings at Nasonworth addressed by Hon. H. F. McLeod and R. B. Hanson, of this city; at Estey's Bridge, addressed by W. B. Dickson, M. P. P., and others, and Day Hill Bridge, addressed by James K. Pinder, M. P. P., and Harry W. Woods M. P. P.

The meetings billed for Monday night include one at Harvey to be addressed by Dr. Morehouse, J. A. Murray, M. P. P., and Coun. S. B. Hunter and one at Maryaville where Premier Hazen will be among the speakers. There are also several other meetings billed for Monday night and it promises to be a whirlwind campaign while it lasts.

THE NEED OF A ROYAL COMMISSION.

In another four weeks, on Tuesday, April 18, the civic elections will be held and the people of this city will be called upon to decide by a plebiscite the most important question which can be submitted for their consideration—the system under which St. John shall be governed. It will not be amiss, therefore, to pause and review briefly the situation and to examine the progress which has been made since the agitation for a change in the system of government started.

On Monday, January 9, at the request of the Council of the Board of Trade, the Common Council agreed to submit a bill to the Legislature to enable a plebiscite to be taken on the commission plan of government; in the words of the official notice "to provide "for the taking of a plebiscite, at the civic elections in April next, "as to whether or not the electors of the City of St. John are in "favor of governing the said city by an elective Commission of five "persons consisting of a Mayor and four Commissioners in lieu of "the present system of civic administration."

Subsequently through the activity of the Board of Trade an organization called the Citizens' Committee was formed, a large fund was subscribed, and a vigorous campaign was inaugurated to secure the support of the electorate. A pamphlet was issued setting out on broad lines what the commission idea is, but containing no information as to the numerous and important changes which a revolution in the form of government would bring about in this city. The local situation is not touched upon.

Not only are some of the statements contained in this pamphlet open to criticism, but at least in one instance they are confusing and contradictory. On page 3 it is stated, among the leading features of the commission plan, that it "pays the Mayor and "Commissioners so elected sufficient salary to enable them to devote "their entire time to the city's affairs." On page 6 it is set forth that commission "provides either that the Mayor and Commission-"ers must give all their time or such as may be necessary for the "proper transaction of the city's business."

This indefiniteness and the silence of the advocates of commission on all details, and they are many and important as affecting the government of this city, have been marked features of their campaign. The principle of commission government, that is, the management of the city's affairs by five commissioners, with certain adjuncts such as the initiative, referendum and recall, is all that the people of St. John know of the system under which, if this campaign is successful, they will be governed in future.

A resolution in favor of introducing reforms into the present system, the main feature being to reduce the council to nine aldermen, was adopted on February 13 by a large majority of the Common Council. As yet no programme outlining definitely the course other reforms will take has been made public, but a bill has been submitted to the Legislature asking that a plebiscite may be taken on the main question. This movement has received very general support, although its friends have not seen the necessity of appearing on the platform or advertising extensively in the public press.

Broadly put, therefore, the situation today narrows down to this:—The electors will be asked to decide by their votes whether they want the city governed by the Common Council system or on the commission principle. In view of all the circumstances, the fact that the friends of commission have no detailed programme to offer and that the reform movement is almost equally indefinite, a situation has arisen which in the public interest must be grappled with.

The Standard is of the opinion that the appointment of a Royal Commission, such as the one which framed the union of the cities in 1889, will meet the difficulty and should be satisfactory to all interests concerned. The electors by their votes at the approaching plebiscite will decide whether they favor the broad principle of civic government by a mayor and aldermen or civic government by five commissioners. Whichever principle receives the goodwill of the majority should before April, 1912, be incorporated into a charter by an independent tribunal, and by that system St. John will thenceforth be governed.

The advantages of leaving all the details to the decision of an independent body are obvious. As matters stand at present, even should the friends of commission produce some form of charter of their own devising and be successful at the polls, the details of the commission plan must necessarily be dealt with by a more or less hostile common council during the coming civic year. Endless discussion may result with probably further amendments to the charter when submitted to the Legislature. Should the Common Council system prove successful the advocates of commission will have ample opportunity to present arguments in favor of reforms and improvements which would be given due consideration by the investigating commissioners.

The Standard makes this suggestion believing that the framing of a new charter based on either principle should be in the hands of an independent body with only the best interests of the citizens to serve. We maintain the opinion previously expressed that reforms can be introduced into the present system which will make the conduct of public business as satisfactory as in thousands of other communities. We abate nothing in our criticism of the commission plan which has yet to be proved something better than a make-shift form of government applicable to bankrupt and graft-ridden cities in the States. The merits and demerits of this system, however, are not now under discussion. The point to be considered is what guarantee the electors can secure that the principle they vote for at the polls, will be elaborated into a system of government without friction and with a due regard to all classes in the community.

By the appointment of a Royal Commission we believe this end can be most satisfactorily accomplished. The Common Council, as the representatives of the citizens, should take the matter up with the local Government without further delay so that when the plebiscite is taken the people may have some definite guarantee that their decision will be effectively carried out by an honest and independent tribunal. The fairness and capacity of the Local Administration are so well established that whichever principle of government is successful there can be no doubt that the personnel of the commission appointed to work out the details would be such as to give it broad and friendly treatment and justice to all concerned.

U. S. CAVALRY FOR THE CORONATION

Detachment Will Participate In International Horse Show To Be Held In London During Coronation Festivities.

Washington, D. C., Mar. 18.—The United States cavalry will participate in the international horse show at London in June in connection with the Coronation festivities. Five officers and ten enlisted men of the cavalry will represent the American military establishment at the show. This is the first time that the United States army will have participated in a foreign horse show.

GERMAN SOCIALISTS FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Berlin, Mar. 19.—The Socialists organized mass meetings in every city in Germany today in favor of woman suffrage. Those held in Berlin passed off without incident and no disorder. This is the first occasion on which the Socialists of Germany have taken up officially the cause of woman.

CHINESE AND JAPS FIGHT

Chinese Police And Japanese Quarantine Guards Reported In Serious Clash—Two Killed; Many Wounded.

St. Petersburg, Mar. 19.—China has not yet replied to the last Russian note which amounted to an ultimatum, insisting upon a closer adherence to the provisions of the treaty of 1881.

A despatch to the Novoe Vramya from Mukden says that an attempt by the Chinese police to enter the quarantine lines has led to serious conflicts between the police and the Japanese guards at Fuscun. One Japanese and one Chinaman were killed and many were wounded on both sides.

NOTED PAINTER DEAD.

London, Mar. 19.—Ernest Crofts, R. A., the noted painter and keeper of the Royal Academy, died today. Ernest Crofts was born in Yorkshire, in 1847. His first picture, A Retreat, episode of the German-French War, was exhibited in the Royal Academy in 1874. His historical paintings range over a wide period and deal mainly with military subjects.

BLACK DAMP KILLS FIVE

Explosions In Kansas Coal Mine Yesterday Proved Fatal—Rescue Party Of Three Men Among The Victims.

Pittsburg, Kansas, Mar. 19.—Five men including John Jopling, general superintendent in the coal department of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad are dead as the result of an explosion of black damp in the company's mine at Mineral, Kansas, today.

There were three explosions, the face a rescue party composed of Jop-John Burgan, shot firers, went into the mine. Both were killed immediately. The second came when William Jeffries, another shot firer went underground to rescue his fellow workmen. By lying flat Jeffries saved himself. As soon as he reached the surfirst just after Thomas Cheek and ling and two miners, Samuel Watson, and a foreigner, rushed into the pit to search for Cheek and Burgan. Less than thirty minutes later there was an explosion which killed Jopling and his men.

MURDER ENDS FAMILY ROW

Thomas Fitzgibbons Of Ansonia, Conn., Killed His Wife, And Was In Turn Murdered By His Son.

Ansonia, Conn., March 19.—Thomas Fitzgibbons, sr., and his wife, Nora, were found in their home on Division street late today with their skulls crushed in with an axe and the house on fire. Their son, Thomas, jr., being held by the police charged with the double murder, though according to the story told by him to the police, his father killed his mother, and he in turn killed his father. The son has two slight scalp wounds which he said he received when he took the axe away from his father, but according to the medical examiner, the wounds were probably self inflicted.

The tragedy was discovered by a neighbor, Edward Fogarty, who attracted by smoke issuing from the windows of the house, entered to find Thomas, jr., hacking the head of his father, who was lying on the kitchen floor with an axe, and the body of the mother with her skull crushed in lying on the floor in a front room.

The house was on fire, set either by a lamp which was on the floor, or by a stove which was overturned. Before the bodies could be removed that of the elder Fitzgibbons was badly burned.

Fogarty secured the son and held him until the arrival of the police. According to the story told to them by the son, who was released from the state asylum for the insane a year ago, and since that time had been working in Schenectady, N. Y., he returned home a week ago. His father and mother, he said, frequently quarrelled and today had a particularly violent fight which led his father to seize the axe which stood in a corner of the kitchen and strike Mrs. Fitzgibbons on the head.

The son said he interfered as soon as he could and took the axe from his father and struck him with it, crushing his skull. The fire, he said, was started by the lamp, which his father had thrown at his mother before attacking her with the axe. Fitzgibbons is being held pending the coroner's inquiry.

LLOYD GEORGE TO TAKE REST

His Physicians Tell Him He Is Very Ill And Must Remain Out Of Parliament For Several Weeks.

New York, N. Y., Mar. 19.—The Tribune's London correspondent cables: The King and Queen are making fresh engagements, like that at the Austrian-Hungarian embassy and the Friday night dinners at Buckingham Palace will remain a fixture until Easter.

The health of Lord Lansdowne is not completely restored although he has returned to London for political conferences and gone away again for the week end.

Lord Crewe's troublesome cough is an obstinate reminder of his bronchial attack. His recuperative powers are also sluggish. Lord Rosebery is reported to be seriously concerned about him.

The rumor that Mr. Haldane will be raised to the peerage as the Liberal leader of the House of Lords during Lord Crewe's convalescence is not yet confirmed, but it is probably true.

Lloyd-George has been thoroughly frightened by his doctors and remains on the south coast. As a special telegraph and telephone service has been laid to his place he may remain out of parliament for several weeks.

MONCTON WILL ENFORCE LAW

Tobacconists Who Sell "The Weed" To Small Boys Will Be Severely Dealt With—Two Fined.

Special to The Standard.

Moncton, Mar. 19.—The police are after those who sell cigarettes and tobacco to minors. As a result Teddy Managage was convicted on Saturday for a second offence and fined $15. Louis Attis for a first offence was fined $10. Others who violate the law in this respect are to be dealt with.

JUDGE GIROUARD DYING.

Ottawa, Mar. 19.—Justice Girourard, of the supreme court of Canada, is hardly likely to recover from the shock of the recent accident, when he was thrown from a sleigh. His condition is very serious.

JUSTICE TASCHEREAU BETTER.

Ottawa, Mar. 19.—Sir E. Taschereau it is announced by the family, is rapidly recovering from the slight stroke of apoplexy.

Insurrectos Stoned This Palace

THE NATIONAL PALACE OF THE CITY OF MEXICO.

San Antonio, Tex., March 18.—That the official residence of President Diaz in Mexico City was recently stoned by insurrectionist sympathizers, was an important item of news that came out in San Antonio yesterday. The attack on the presidential palace was made about 9 p. m. while Diaz was giving a reception, which was attended by a large number of foreigners. The demonstration was entirely unexpected and before the police could disperse the mob over half the windows in the palace were broken. The aged Mexican president, it was said, was the coolest person in the palace during the demonstration and personally saw to the issuing of orders that caused the mob to disperse.

FIGHTING ON MEXICAN LINE

Eleven Soldiers Killed In Skirmish On Friday—Limantour Speeding To Capital With Proposals For Peace.

Presidio, Texas, March 17., via Maraa Tex., March 18.—Eleven soldiers and two insurrectos were killed today in the siege of Ojinaga. With the river ford between Presidio and the besieged city in their possession and the town surrounded, bottling up the main body of federal troops, the rebel forces are centreing their attention on two adobe huts on the Canada ranch on the outskirts of Ojinaga where forty soldiers are virtually held prisoners and to the guardhouse near the river crossing held by the federals. For 24 hours firing at close range has been almost continuous. Early today the detachment at the Canada ranch made a rush from the adobe shelters. They were met by a withering fire and were forced to return to the huts after nine had been killed.

New York, March 18.—The Mexican vice consul here, Manuel A. Esteva, in a long statement to the press unexpectedly confirms the understanding that Senor Limantour is the bearer of important proposals from the insurrectos to the administration.

"It seems to me a great mistake for the newspapers to print from day to day, rumors from the Texas border as to whether Mr. Limantour will be permitted to make the journey safely across Mexico. He is returning to Mexico with important plans with respect to reforms and the general improvement of the country," says Senor Esteva.

"The publication of rumors that insurrectos may burn bridges ahead of Senor Limantour's train," he says, "might incite individuals who had not thought of such a thing to interfere with his prompt return." Heretofore all the government pronunciamentos have referred to the insurrectos as "disturbers of the peace," sometimes a "anarchists" or more slightly as merely disorderly persons. The Mexican vice-consul takes a different tone.

"In the first place," he says, "the Mexicans engaged in the insurrection are mostly above the peon class-men who can read and write with no difficulty whatsoever."

Still another sidelight on the quality and conduct of the insurrection came today from A. E. Stillwell, president of the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient Railway Company. "Our only experience with insurrectos," he said, "dates back some five or six weeks, when Orozco and 52 men captured an Orient train and compelled the conductor to take them back some 75 miles. Three days later they took the regular train from the end of our lines in the mountains back to their starting point and left us, having paid full fares for the entire party both ways."

Torreon, Mex., March 18.—Details of the engagement yesterday on Colonas, east of here on the International railroad reached this city today. Sixty regulars were ambushed by 140 rebels and a desperate fight ensued. The loss is reported to be 30 killed on each side. Among the federal dead is Captain Duran who was in command of the company.

Fatal Accidents in U. S. Camp

San Antonio, Texas, Mar. 19.—Dr. F. S. Pearson, the financier, one of the heaviest sufferers by the revolution in Mexico, arrived here tonight. At the time of the order to mobilize the troops here it was reported that Dr. Pearson was behind an alleged demand of the British ambassador to Washington that the United States protect property in Mexico. This story was denied. Dr. Pearson was accompanied by Walter Gow, of Toronto, his attorney, two engineers and a secretary. He will remain two days. Locally it is believed the visit has to do only with an irrigation project.

Two casualties have occurred in the manoeuvre camp in the last 36 hours. William B. Thatcherd, a recruit assign to Company E., 15th infantry, was drowned while swimming yesterday. His body was recovered. Frank Say, of Company F, 40th artillery, probably was fatally injured by the kick of a mule.

The troop train made up yesterday to be held in instant readiness to move is still awaiting developments.

THE THOS. MALCOLM PRIVATE LETTER.

(Fredericton Gleaner.)

On Thursday Premier Hazen wired Mr. Thomas Malcolm, stating that Mr. Tweeddale had read in the Legislature a copy of a letter addressed to him by Malcolm himself and marked "private." The Premier also informed Mr. Malcolm that it had been reported to him that the letter had also been read and circulated in Carleton County, and that before it had been read in the House. He wanted an explanation. To this telegram Mr. Malcolm replied:—

Montreal, March 17.

Hon. J. D. Hazen,

Premier, Fredericton, N.B.,

Message received. I furnished Mr. Carvell with a copy of my offer, he having charge of bill now before Parliament, to amend act relating to the Quebec and New Brunswick Railway Co. I knew nothing about its being circulated in New Brunswick, your telegram being the first intimation I had of it.

THOS. MALCOLM.

So it is Mr. Carvell of Carleton who is responsible for this deliberate breach of honor, and that too by violating the confidence of a client. It appears to have become a mania with Mr. Carvell to do what men of honor, respected as such, have a contempt for. He is evidently getting a reputation.

GOVERNOR GIBSON FAVORS NAVY PLAN

Ontario Governor At Dinner To Admiral Kingsmill Declares It Is Time That Canada Made a Start.

Toronto Ont., March 19.—Speaking at a luncheon tendered by the Canadian Military Institute to Admiral Kingsmill and his staff of officers, Commander Roper, R. C. N., and Engineer Commander Howe, R. C. N., on Saturday, Lieut. Governor Gibson, in proposing the health of the guests of honor placed himself on record as being strongly in favor that a beginning should be made in the establishment of a navy in this country.

Admiral Kingsmill, in replying, said that he and his staff were in Canada to carry out the instructions of the federal government. As an officer of the active list, he was debarred from discussing the navy as a question, but he could tell them that they were getting an excellent class of recruits, who, when they were granted a furlough, would be the means of attracting many more desirable young men to the service of their country.

Mexico City, March 19.—Jose Limantour, in his private car moving as a special will arrive here some time before noon tomorrow, barring unforseen delays, according to best information obtainable tonight. The car was dropped from the regular south bound train from Laredo at Monterey last night and left that city at 7.30 a. m. today. News of the breaking of the journey reached here in delayed despatches today. The reason given was the illness of Mrs. Limantour, which, at the same time, was said to be not serious.

Belief in the wisdom of precautionary measures also was thought to have some weight in bringing about the stopover. The night run south would have been through a mountainous district, well suited to the plans of any irresponsibles who might have felt called upon to hinder the progress of the party. By leaving in the morning many miles were put between the travellers and any district in which disturbances have occurred before nightfall.

Pope Receives Mexican Soldier.

Rome, March 18.—The Pope today received in private audience General Bernardo Reyes, the Mexican soldier, and discussed with him the situation in Mexico. His holiness remarked to General Reyes that although President Diaz was responsible for the separation of the church and state, the Vatican is well satisfied with the position of the church in the country.

TWO MILES A MINUTE

Auto Driver In Florida Makes a New Speed Record—Long Distance Records Smashed At Los Angeles Meet.

Jacksonville, Fla., March 19.—Bob Burman drove the first mile ever driven under the rate of two miles a minute on the Atlantic Pablo beach when he sent his big 250 horse power Mercedes a mile in 28.40 seconds this afternoon.

Los Angeles, Cal., March 19.—Teddy Tetzlaff, in a Lozier, established four world's automobile records today at the Plaza Del Rey motordrome, when he defeated Ralph De Palma, driving a Fiat in a 100 mile race. The race was finished in one hour and 14 minutes and 29 1-5 seconds, lowering the previous record of 1.16 21 made by Haroun. De Palma was six and a half miles behind when Tetzlaff finished. The following intermediate world's record for speed way, regardless of class were also established:—25 miles, 18.22 3-5, former record, 18.52; 50 miles, 36.35 4-5, former record, 37.55 3-5; 70 miles, 54.50 1-5, former record, 57.15 3-5.

It is practically certain that the hour record of 76 miles also was broken, but the time was not taken.

ARBITRATION PLAN POPULAR

London Clergymen Eulogize Sir Edward Grey And President Taft From The Pulpit On Peace Sunday.

London, Mar. 19.—Today has been observed as peace Sunday. The Archbisnop of York preached at Sheffield and from practically every pulpit in the Kingdom, the sermon was devoted to an eulogium of President Taft and Sir Edward Grey for their arbitration proposals. The free churches have arranged for a demonstration in support of the arbitration movement to be held in Albert Hall, April 1.

THE ITALIAN CABINET STEPS DOWN AND OUT

Premier Luzzotti And His Colleagues Resign Following Stormy Debates On The Proposed Reforms.

Rome, Mar. 19.—The resignation of the Italian cabinet has followed stormy debates in the chamber of deputies over the proposed electoral reforms. This ministry of which Luigi Luzzatti was premier, was formed March 31, 1910. The action of the ministry is regretted here, occurring as it does on the eve of the inauguration of the exhibition which is to take place March 27. The fear is expressed that the celebration will now have to be carried out not only without the premier, but without the mayor as well, owing to the threat of a municipal crisis.

CANON SCOTT'S ANNIVERSARY.

Quebec, Mar. 19.—The Rev. Canon F. G. Scott, the well known Canadian poet and rector of St. Matthew's church, in Quebec, will celebrate the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the Anglican priesthood on Tuesday next. Canon Scott is a native of Montreal.

THE CHAUDIERE BRIDGE.

Quebec, Mar. 19.—The firm of O'Neil and Loney of this city, have been awarded the contract for the construction of the new bridge over the river Chaudiere at St. George Beauce.