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E. W. McCREADY,
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THE EVENING TIMES

New Brunswick's Independent newspapers.

These newspapers advocate:
British connection
Honesty in public life
Measures for the material progress and moral advancement of our great Dominion
No graft!
No deals!

"The Thistle, Shamrock, Rose entwine,
The Maple Leaf forever."

Semi-Weekly Telegraph and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 13, 1912.

THE SESSION

The Speech from the Throne is vague and hum-drum enough to introduce a very dull session of the Legislature, but it is known that the session will be much more interesting than this drab document indicates.

Mr. Copp and his followers will require a great deal of specific information which the government has somewhat conspicuously avoided in setting forth the official bill of fare for the next few weeks. The first half of the speech is devoted to routine matters, and the recital is colorless and harmless enough. Then we come to the question of provincial representation and the prospect of New Brunswick losing two members at Ottawa by reason of the recent census and the growth of the population in the West. Hon. Mr. Flemming foreshadows a meeting of provincial premiers to deal with the question, and New Brunswickers will remember that Hon. Mr. Pugsley and Mr. Carvell and others have been pressing for justice on this subject in the House of Commons.

The reference in the speech to the Valley Railroad says that a contract for the construction of the road has been entered into and that work will be begun early in the spring, the road to extend to Grand Falls from St. John, and the first portion, from Centreville to Gagetown, to be completed prior to November, 1913. There still seems to be some doubt about the exact route to be followed from Gagetown to St. John, and there are disturbing reports about the portion from Centreville to Grand Falls, which reports this session should suffice to set at rest. The opposition should be able to elicit some binding statement from the government concerning many features of the railway which have thus far been dealt with only in the most general terms.

There is in the speech an extended reference to immigration, the value of which will be more apparent later on when Premier Flemming finally gets ready to tell the people of New Brunswick what his immigration policy really is, how much driving power there is behind it, and what aid the Federal government is to provide. This is a matter in which generalities will no longer serve.

The Premier refers proudly to the territorial revenue for the year, but makes no reference to the more important fact that the decreased size of the saw-log is resulting in a severe inroad upon our forest wealth, which means that we are spending principal as well as interest. This is the biggest question before the country, and in dealing with it the Flemming administration has been both reckless and incompetent.

Hon. Mr. Flemming will have to defend the most extravagant administration in the history of New Brunswick, and in the discussion to come he will be compelled to give the province considerable information regarding the spending of its money, which information has been somewhat successfully concealed during the recess.

THE AGES OF GLADSTONE AND LAURIER

Mr. Balfour characterized Gladstone as "the greatest member of the greatest deliberative assembly that the world has seen," and much of Mr. Gladstone's fame as a leader and his position as a statesman was secured after he had passed seventy. He only began to "lower sails and gather in his ropes" after he had entered his eighty-sixth year, and then only because his hearing had begun to fail and his sight greatly troubled him. The question of age, he informs us, did not decide him in his intention to escape from politics; it was the state of his sight that forced him to exchange public obligations for the breezy common of humanity. Sir Wilfrid Laurier is still a young man at this rate, and may direct for years the destiny of this country which has been made so great by his leadership. In ideals, eloquence, and the qualities that attract and capture the hearts of men, there is a wonderful similarity between the two statesmen. Mr. Gladstone occupies as high a pinnacle in history as any of those who have helped make it illustrious; Laurier will not occupy a lower niche.

Mr. Gladstone carried the Irish Home Rule Bill through the House of Commons when he was eighty-four. His energy never flagged during the eighty odd days of discussion over this bill. He made speeches of powerful argument, of high constitutional reasoning, of trenchant debating force. On one occasion when the ministers had taken ground, which, the debate disclosed, they could not hold, Gladstone made a speech in receding from this position, which was pronounced by one of the most powerful of his opponents to be the most wonderful thing he had ever seen done. The stage of committee lasted for sixty-three sittings, and his performance in committee stirred the wonder and admiration of the House. The routine business of head of a government he attended to, with all his usual assiduity, and in council he was clear, careful and methodical as ever. He well knew that his work on the Irish Bill was Sisyphean toil, for the Lords made no secret of their intention of throwing it out. When they did throw it out, although in his eighty-fifth year, he was only prevented from carrying the fight against them to the country by divided opinion in his cabinet. His last speech—sixty-one years after he had first entered the House—was a prophecy with great force and fire, that the controversy between privilege and the people, when once raised, must go forward to an issue.

Gladstone was much older than Laurier is now when he described Chamberlain, then trimming his sails to every wind, in language which is peculiarly applicable to the present Canadian premier and cabinet. He said: "Mr. Chamberlain has said that a dissolution has no terrors for him. I do not see how a dissolution can have any terrors for him. He has trimmed his vessel, and he has touched his rudder in such a masterly way, that in whatever direction the winds of heaven may blow they must fill his sails. Supposing that at an election public opinion should be strongly in favor of the bill, my right hon. friend would then be perfectly prepared to meet that public opinion, and tell it, 'I declared strongly that I adopted the principle of the bill.' On the other hand, if public opinion were very adverse to the bill, he again is in complete armor, because he says: 'Yes, I voted against the bill.'"

And so he went on until he had boxed the compass, describing all the evasions and squirmings of his honorable friend in his efforts to catch every popular breeze and do nothing all the while. Gladstone persisted by reason of his great strength and vitality far beyond what the Psalmist marks as the alloted span of human life. There are many indications that a kindly Providence will extend a similar vitality and long life to the great Canadian.

FORWARD NEW BRUNSWICK

Here in the East we are beginning to get into our stride. Friday's immigration congress at Fredericton—marked as it was by militant optimism, by constructive suggestions, and by a welcome show of determination to get things done—was the sort of meeting calculated to show that New Brunswick is stirred by a new spirit, that it is beginning to realize the size of its opportunities and the values of its resources, and is ready to open the door to true progress and keep it open.

This representative and aggressive meeting dwelt upon the too often neglected fact that ours is the best land in the world in which to live, and proceeded to set forth certain concrete lines of action looking to the development of the country by immigration and by the stimulation and expansion of agriculture in New Brunswick. The meeting meant business, and unquestionably it represented an awakened and powerful sentiment throughout the country that is demanding fair play for the Maritime Provinces at the hands of the Federal government, together with speedy, straightforward and progressive action from the provincial administration.

This province will no longer tolerate the drumming-up of harvest excursions to divert population westward where conditions are not nearly so good as they are at home. It will no longer agree to pay its share of Federal immigration and publicity expenses the benefits of which are not equally shared by our own people. It will no longer accept words and an increase in provincial bureaucratic salaries in place of real plans and actions for the expansion of our farming communities and our markets and the peopling of our vacant lands.

Reciprocity was a scarce word at yesterday's congress; yet it must have occurred to many that the short cut to all of the benefits the congress is seeking is free access to the nearest market for our agricultural products, year in and year out. We shall have reciprocity in due season, and while we are waiting for it we must push forward aggressively along some of the lines laid down in the speeches and resolutions of yesterday. The local government cannot fail to be impressed by the earnestness and representative character of the meeting—and after some years of hesitation and inactivity the Flemming administration requires much of such pressure.

The meeting very wisely recognized the fact that co-operation by the active men of the province will do much, aside altogether from government action. The faith of live men in their own province, their determination to prove that faith and impress it upon others, will work wonders. Once a country really begins to believe in itself and act accordingly it will have little trouble in securing reasonable legislative support for its requirements, for the ear of governments is quick to catch strong manifestations of popular opinion. New Brunswick is bestirring itself. It is even beginning to advertise and to invest more of its money at home. These are indeed pleasing signs of the times.

THE AIRSHIPS

The progress in aeronautics still continues with undiminished speed. It is only a few years since the famous duel between Latham and Bleriot for the conquest of the English Channel ended in favor of the latter, but no one now thinks anything of a trip from Dover to Calais through the air. In fact the day of exhibitions and aerial circuses is over. The aeroplane is taken as an established fact and the inventive genius of its devotees has been turned towards increasing its commercial value. As a powerful factor in modern warfare its importance has been clearly demonstrated, not only in the annual army manoeuvres of the great powers, but under actual conditions of war in Tripoli.

For that reason, no doubt, the feat of another airman in flying from London to Paris within three hours will add to the terror of invasion in which many Englishmen live. There is already a very strong international movement for preventing the use of flying machines in war, but like the movement for the abolition of espionage it has not much prospect of success. As a consequence it is most probable that military requirements will be the chief determinant in the progress of the machines for some years. There is scarcely a sign yet of a time when they will be used for business or pleasure, but aeroplane builders have no doubt that that time too will come. It is through an improvement in the war machines that we must look for the latter development.

Recent exhibitions show a tendency to build stronger machines with proper shelter for inclement weather for those whom they carry. Steel is largely taking the place of wood in their construction, mainly through the efforts of French inventors. In fact it is in France that by far the greatest progress has been made in utilizing the new invention. That country has an aerial fleet far superior to any other nation, a fleet which has to be taken very seriously into consideration in any attempt to summarize the resources of the two nations in the case of another Franco-German war. France will increase that advantage during this year, for she has made an appropriation for maintenance and construction of three-quarters of a million dollars while Britain and Germany have each appropriated only a quarter of a million.

The problems to which aerial navigation will give rise seem almost insuperable to the ordinary man. They will occupy not only mechanics but eminent jurists for many a day; but the world has a way of accommodating itself to such things, and they will be settled in good time. It is to be hoped that the greatest progress in aircraft will not have to be purchased at the cost of a disastrous war. If only their builders could receive the same commercial inducement to develop them as business assets which they do to develop them from the military standpoint that matter would not be in doubt. But for the present they are unquestionably ranged with those whose best faculties are directed towards perfecting methods of destruction.

KEEP THE FISHING FOR THE PEOPLE

The province secures a large revenue from its trout and salmon streams. They are great assets and with our growth will become increasingly important. They should be kept for the whole people. Instead of renting them out to clubs or individuals, let the government stock them, patrol them and hold them for the people. If the streams are sold at public auction, the leases will be secured by the wealthy who can afford to pay high for this most delightful recreation, and they will be jealously guarded against the man who can afford only three or four days fishing during the year and who would be glad to pay during those days for the privilege of fishing in a good, well-stocked and carefully protected stream.

The revenue which is now secured from leases is paid by individuals and clubs that can afford high rentals. The law gives them the exclusive privilege of fishing in those streams, but a larger revenue could be obtained, and a vastly greater number of people accommodated, if they were, retained by the government and a reasonable charge made per rod per day to all fishermen. An increasingly large number would avail themselves of the privilege every year, and the reputation of the province as a fishing resort would be greatly enhanced. It is the more democratic way, and our streams would then be put on the same basis for fishing as our forests are for hunting. They would be thrown open to all who would care to pay for the privilege of using them. New Brunswick would then attract sportsmen from every quarter to enjoy her unrivalled salmon and trout fishing, and she would offer to her own people an opportunity for recreation and play which they have not at present. This province, with its remarkable lakes and streams is bound to become the most notable resort on the continent for sportsmen and vacationists. Her streams should be held open for all instead of being leased to a few. The leasing plan may have been wise in the earlier days before the country was developed; it is not the wisest plan now. When so many leases have expired, an excellent opportunity is offered for a change of policy.

The increased revenue would provide money to meet the only valid objection to a change in the present system—the danger of extensive fires in the districts where timber is valuable. It is time, anyway, to organize a really effective fire patrol system. The loss through fire yearly now is great enough to pay the cost twice over, and more.

In the Legislature Friday, Hon. Mr. Flemming once more wrestled at length with the record of the old government. When he goes to the country he will discover that the present administration, not the old one, is on trial.

THE VALLEY RAILWAY

Mr. J. F. Tweeddale on Saturday gave Premier Flemming an hour of discomfort in connection with the Valley Railway, and as a result of the debate the country will regard Mr. Flemming's indirect proposals and announcements about the railway with increased suspicion. So far as the records show at present the Premier gives no satisfactory assurance that the road is to be built from Centreville to Grand Falls, and Mr. Tweeddale, representing Victoria, speaks not only for his county but for the whole province in pointing out that a connection with the Transcontinental at Grand Falls is absolutely necessary unless the government is going to employ the credit of New Brunswick to finance a local railway after promising a trunk line with through connections, providing competitive rates for traffic.

Mr. Tweeddale performed a service that is valuable and timely in directing attention to the vague and evasive character of the information provided by Mr. Flemming. The Minister of Railways seems to know nothing of the road beyond Andover. Mr. Flemming defers action on the Andover-Grand Falls section for some years. Why? Is the C. P. R. leading the local government back to the old proposal for a local road that will not interfere with the C. P. R. monopoly?

The public will remember Mr. Hazen's eloquent plea of two years ago for an electric road. The opposition succeeded in burying that project. Then Mr. Hazen and Mr. Flemming wished to provide for a railway from one point on the C. P. R. to another point on the C. P. R.,—a feeder for the Canadian Pacific built at the expense of the province. Messrs. Pugsley and Carvell, together with leading members of the provincial opposition, Mr. Tweeddale among them, insisted that the line must run from St. John to Grand Falls, and connect there with the Transcontinental. Only this arrangement—for which the people of the river counties can thank the Liberal leaders—could justify the guaranteeing of bonds by the province.

Of late there have been many predictions that the road would never run beyond Centreville and not a few that it would stop at Welsford. Mr. Copp, Mr. Bentley, Mr. Tweeddale and others are determined that the government shall deal honestly with the public in these matters. They cannot insist too strongly upon binding guarantees that Mr. Flemming is going to keep faith.

MATERIAL PROGRESS IS NOT EVERYTHING

As important as any of the suggestions made by Mr. Burditt for the improvement of the city is the one for the increasing of recreation grounds. Play is a large and important part of the child's preparation for life work, and in quite too many cases in St. John the child is forced to play in the streets and back alleys. Mr. Joseph Lee, who has made a study of the subject, has remarked that "the boy without a playground is father to the man without a job." In every community where playgrounds have been opened juvenile misdemeanors have decreased.

It is very possible that the lack of good playgrounds works almost as much harm as child labor. The conditions under which many thousands of city children study vice and play are sure to corrupt the character and weaken the body. The impulse to play is as natural and normal as the desire to eat. Nothing is more characteristic of a healthy child than the desire for play. A healthy boy will work at play twice as hard as he will work at work or study, and it is perfectly natural and right that he should. Play is a medium of education and without it the child cannot be normally developed. The country children have wide spaces in which to play, and thousands of measurements in the United States and elsewhere show that country children are taller and heavier than city children of the same age.

Playgrounds have an economic value. Mere individualism makes ugly towns; cities should buy or condemn land for the use of the people, and they should not wait until it becomes too costly. Our city commissioners could not better celebrate the change in the city government than by calling in a real landscape gardener, to plan parks and decorate open spaces and cemeteries. Municipal regulation alone can bring order and beauty into the deformed streets in which so many are compelled to live and rear their children. Every city should have an architect who would draw plans and assist in arrangement of buildings and the laying out of new streets, and open places for recreation and play. Patriotism may rejoice in growth, but a truer patriotism desires beauty and an opportunity for recreation that will ensure health and culture.

KEEP THE RECORD STRAIGHT

Mr. Copp's speech of last Thursday in the House, and Mr. Bentley's of Friday were badly handled in the official report of the proceedings in the Legislature. Mr. Bentley drew attention to the matter on Saturday, and a correction was made. This is a serious question. Both men were represented as having said things calculated to give an utterly false impression as to their position on important public questions. Accuracy is the first essential in the official report, and it should be insisted upon.

An extra copy of the report should be available for the inspection of every speaker so that errors could be detected and corrected promptly. As an election is expected soon it is necessary that every member of the House, regardless of party, should know that a fair account of his speeches is being sent out in the official report.

CLASS LEGISLATION

The special interests and trusts are always devising ingenious ways by which they can divert to themselves the wealth created by others, and it may be long before the people succeed in bringing them under complete control, but it will not be for lack of effort. They flourished even when Zeno, the Emperor of the East, in the fifth century, issued an edict, part of which reads: "We command that no one may presume to exercise a monopoly of any kind of clothing, or of fish, or of any other thing served for food, or for any other use, whatever its nature may be; nor may any person combine or agree in unlawful meetings, that different kinds of merchandise may not be sold at a less price than they may have agreed upon among themselves. And if any one shall presume to exercise a monopoly, let his property be forfeited and himself condemned to perpetual exile."

He goes on to explain what shall happen to the courts and the officers of the law, if, through avarice or misconduct, this edict for the prohibition of monopolies and agreements in restraint of trade among the different bodies of merchants shall not be carried into effect. In spite of all edict and prohibitions from the days of Zeno down, small companies of captains of industry are in fairly complete control of the necessities as well as the luxuries of life, their production and distribution.

In the change and reconstruction of social institutions throughout the centuries, one thing has always been uppermost—the will of men to abolish one by one the tenures which have interfered with the mutualities of life together. To this end humanity will go forward through all disappointments and discouragements. Webster once said, speaking of another subject: "The lightning is strong; the tornado is strong; the earthquake is strong; but there is something stronger than all these: it is the enlightened judgment of mankind." That enlightened judgment will continually make war on those who seek for special privilege, and it will ultimately drive corruptionists and monopolists from power. If great combinations find themselves annoyed by the law, let them examine their own conduct and they will find the cause; let them amend it and they will find the remedy. Large combinations are inevitable, but it is equally inevitable that they will be compelled to serve rather than exploit the people. The beginning of better things must come with the reform of the tariff. It is the greatest friend of special privilege.

NOTE AND COMMENT

St. John is talked about all over Canada today. But, in the words of the late Mr. Tarte, "Wait till you see us next year."

* * *

The C. P. R. men who spoke in favor of harvest excursions at the immigration congress yesterday showed more courage than judgment. New Brunswick has had enough of that sort of thing.

* * *

"Increase the British Preference," says the Conservative Ottawa Citizen. Good advice surely; but does the Citizen suppose the "interests" will allow Mr. Borden to follow it? No more than Mr Bourassa will allow him to build a Canadian navy.

* * *

Mr. A. F. Bentley's speech in the Legislature Friday afternoon is worthy of careful reading and will meet with enthusiastic approval from all Liberals, indeed from all fair-minded New Brunswickers. Mr. Bentley's remarks on the lumber policy, the Valley railway, and reciprocity are straight to the point.

* * *

The latest Dominion government report on mineral production in Canada has the following:

"Exports of iron ore from Canada during 1911 are recorded by the Customs Department as 37,686 tons, valued at $133,411. The exports were chiefly from Bathurst, New Brunswick."

* * *

St. John is getting a lot of valuable advertising in these days. The Toronto Globe's illustrated Saturday supplement contains two very excellent views of our harbor, one showing it as seen from Fort Howe, the other presenting the busiest part of Sand Point. The Montreal Star on Saturday contained an illustrated page article on the forward movement here, together with the advertisements of many of our real estate men. The Montreal Herald is to devote a 16-page section to St. John next Saturday. Things are moving.

* * *

Messrs. Bourassa and Lavergne addressed a big "indigation meeting" in Montreal on Saturday at which they denounced Mr. Borden. Yet Mr. Borden has given way to the Nationalists in nearly every instance. In the matter of the navy he surrendered completely. In the matter of separate schools and mixed marriages he "trimmed," pleasing neither the Nationalists nor the Orangemen. Added to these troubles there is a constant row over the spoils. How long can Mr. Borden keep enough of his men together to work the ship?

* * *

Few can have forgotten the keen interest and the widespread activity among the electors which resulted in the great victory for commission government at the polls in St. John. With that sentiment to help, with the knowledge that the great mass of voters eagerly desire effective, progressive government, there should be little trouble in nominating and electing a first class commission this year. This is the day of optimism and progress in St. John. Commission is a great feature of the awakening. It is time to talk about candidates.

* * *

The people of the United States seem to be greatly exercised over the question, When is a promise not a promise? Mr. Roosevelt appears to have very definitely declared that he would never seek a third term as President, but now he declares that he meant to say a third consecutive term. He was never a model of very logical reasoning or very exact thinking, but an excess of modesty was not attributed to him. What the real Teddy should say is "A plague on your petty disputations, your casuistry of little minds. My country needs me and nothing that I have said will prevent me from responding to her call." Or like Mr. Chamberlain he might have relied on the more simple formula, "What I have said, I have said." Meanwhile he might have saved himself much trouble if he had remembered that ironical little French proverb, "One should never say never."

* * *

Sir James Whitney is improving. To a deputation of 200 Ontario men who were asking for power to exempt improvements gradually from taxation Sir James said:

"A man should not be allowed to hold unimproved land for a long time for speculative purposes. A way must be found to prevent it. It is easy enough to do it."

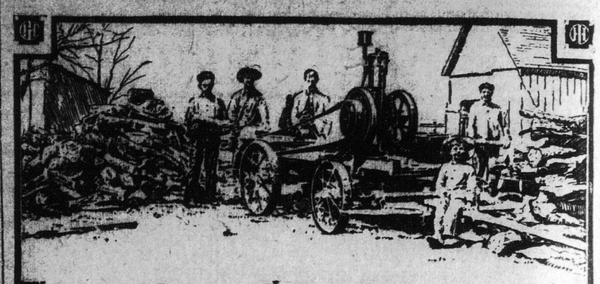
Mr. Stewart Lyon, of the Toronto Globe, who headed the delegation, said among other things:

"We believe that the taxation of improvements increases the cost of making improvements, while the taxation of land values, wherever it has been tried, tends to lessen the cost of land, and makes it more easy for the builder to obtain that land for his purposes." He pointed out that this movement had made great progress in the British Empire. Australasia has had it for many years, and in western Canada it had been exemplified in British Columbia, where Vancouver had found it successful, and it was being applied in Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan. "We are here today," he said, "representing many thousands of citizens of Ontario, who for some time have been of the opinion that this province is not maintaining the lead that it formerly held in the matter of taxation and of the assessment law." Ontario is going to have this reform soon. There is no stopping it.

PLAN TO PROROGUE PARLIAMENT ON MARCH 30

Ottawa, March 8—Just prior to the adjournment of the commons tonight, Hon. Geo. E. Foster, who was leading the house, warned the members that prorogation was expected to take place before Easter, and asked for the co-operation of the opposition members in facilitating business.

Premier Borden will move on Monday that morning sittings of the house begin on Thursday next, with Saturday sittings as well. Prorogation is expected on March 30.



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An I H C gasoline engine will furnish cheap, steady, dependable power for running the pump, woodsaw, feed grinder, corn sheller, grindstone, emery wheel, cream separator, churn, washing machine, wringer, etc. It furnishes power to sharpen plows and disks, light the farm buildings, and do many other kinds of work.

I H C Gasoline Engines

are simple. They are economical of fuel. They are made in all styles, vertical and horizontal, portable and stationary, air and water-cooled, in sizes from 1 to 50-H. P., to operate on gas, gasoline, naphtha, kerosene, distillate, or alcohol. Gasoline and kerosene tractors, 12 to 45-H. P. Sawing, pumping, spraying, grinding outfits, etc.

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The purpose of this Bureau is to furnish, free of charge to all, the best information obtainable on better farming. If you have any worthy questions concerning soils, crops, land drainage, irrigation, fertilizer, etc., make your inquiries specific and send them to I H C Service Bureau, Harvester Building, Chicago, U. S. A.

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An experience of over sixty years in the Seed business in Canada, and our long connection with the Best Growers of the World, gives us advantages which few seed houses possess; added to this, our careful system of testing all our seeds for purity and germination, and the great care exercised in every detail of our business, brings to us every season many pleased customers, to add to our already large list of patrons.

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	4	15	12	12	1	18	19
	7	9	22	5	14		
	1	23	1	25			

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GIVEN AWAY

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Each one of the above four lines of figures spells a word. This most interesting puzzle can be solved with a little study, as follows: There are twenty-six letters in the alphabet, and we have used figures in spelling the four words instead of letters. Letter A is number 1, B number 2, C number 3, etc., throughout the alphabet.

USE YOUR BRAINS. Try and make out the four words. ACT QUICKLY. This is a chance for clever persons to win Cash and other Prizes with a little effort. Write the four words, with your name and address, neatly on a piece of paper or post card and mail to us, and we will write you at once, telling you all about it. You may win a valuable prize. Act Promptly.

DOMINION PREMIUM CO. 210 St. James St. (Dept. 55D) MONTREAL

VICTORIA COUNTY BOARD OF TRADE ANNUAL MEETING

Andover, N. B., March 7—The annual meeting of the Victoria county board of trade was held in the court house on Monday evening. The officers for the ensuing year are: A. E. Kupkey, president; J. E. Porter, vice-president; J. W. Jarvis, secretary; Dr. R. W. L. Earl, treasurer.

James E. Porter, M. P. P., James McPhail and A. E. Kupkey were appointed as delegates to attend the immigration convention at Fredericton on the 8th inst.

The board voted that it would be of great assistance in the development of the country if the government were to establish a national bank to give financial aid to farmers at a low rate of interest and on easy terms of payment.

ABE MARTIN

It looks like th' conscience wave was goin' t' skip Oyster Bay. Doctor Mopps said Elgin Tuler wuz gittin' locomotor ataxi, an' Niles Turner said he'd better pay fer his planner first.