

easily for an outlay of \$20,000. Anything beyond that sum means additional taxation, part of which will have to be provided by an increase of assessment on real estate. As an indication of how the consumption of water is increasing within the limits of St. John it is only necessary to take a few figures from the official reports. In 1882 there were 6,235 families on the pipe line of the city, and in 1902, 7,314. The number of steam engines had increased 38 in the same period. There were 760 baths in 1882 and 2,034 in 1902. The number of water closets in 1882 was 2,078 and 1902, 4,874. No figures of the number of hot water boilers are given for 1882 but in 1902 there were 1,641 of these. In every direction there has been an increased consumption for domestic purposes, and as the supply has not been increased it is only reasonable to expect that there would be a shortage. The only course open to the aldermen therefore is to make the supply equal the demand and the only way to make sure of this is to go to Loch Lomond.

A general election for the Dominion Commons is regarded as an event of the immediate future. Both political parties are lining up for the fight and there are indications that the contest will be a vigorous in the province. We, who live in St. John have become accustomed to having our elections for Dominion representation decided on local issues rather than on the general policy of the government or opposition, but the present situation is so mixed that the oldest and most experienced campaigner is made dizzy trying to guess the probable results.