

# POOR DOCUMENT

## MC 2034

FOUR

THE STAR, ST. JOHN N. B., TUESDAY, APRIL 7 1908

THE ST. JOHN STAR is published by THE SUN PRINTING COMPANY, (LTD.) at St. John, New Brunswick, every afternoon (except Sunday) at \$2.00 a year.

TELEPHONE:-

BUSINESS OFFICE, 25

EDITORIAL AND NEWS DEPT., 1127.

ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 7, 1908.

THE SINKING FUND.

Yesterday's meeting of the Common Council was remarkable for nothing except that business was put through with something less than the usual delay. Probably in view of the approaching election it was felt that the last regular meeting should be devoid of any session. The session, at the same time was of more than ordinary interest through the presentation of an extended though not what could be called an illuminating statement of the city's finances. The report of the chamberlain, Mr. D. G. Linsley was not out of the ordinary in style, but worthy of serious consideration by ratepayers because of the somewhat alarming increase in the debt which are therein shown. This report may be found in last evening's Globe—the only evening paper in the city in the opinion of City Hall and in this morning's Sun.

In presenting the chamberlain's report, Ald. Bullock, chairman of the Treasury Board, added a statement prepared by himself which was brimful of important facts and of a great deal more interest than the cut and dried financial statement. It gave comparisons covering the past fourteen years, and brief explanations of value to all who are inclined to study civic methods.

Ald. Bullock in a separate paper, dealt with the sinking fund mystery. Those who remember the explanation offered by Posty when caught kissing another fellow's sweetheart, will be quite able to appreciate this effort of Ald. Bullock's. It was satisfactory in one or two particulars, but the public may be pardoned for seeking some further knowledge. By the chamberlain's report it is shown that the sinking fund which on Dec. 31st last should have been \$711,592.76, is now only \$68,870.22. The deficit is \$711,592.76. To remedy this, a portion of the first bond issue will be set apart, a sum of \$180,723.22, which will reduce the deficit to \$468,870.22. This will be squared by a new issue of debentures chargeable to water and sewerage, of which notice was given yesterday. The chamberlain is of the opinion that the water department owes the sinking fund this thirty-six thousand dollars. Ald. Bullock, although he proposes the bond issue to cover the deficit does not take the same view. He believes that the money which should be in the fund has dribbled away in general expenses and is not honestly chargeable to any particular account. But on the whole the financial experts are satisfied that the water department should be made to bear the burdens of all departments.

Again it has been declared by the chairman of the Treasury Board and others that this sinking fund has never, in recent years, been intact; that in 1892 there was a shortage of some \$54,000. Has this continued until the present day as stated, or has the fund been restored from time to time? Ald. McGoldrick, who boasts that he and Ald. Baxter have been in the council all these years, and who is proud of the splendid business ability displayed by himself and associates, may perhaps offer some explanation as to why the fund has been so consistently diverted from its proper use.

It appears then that the sinking fund in fourteen years has suffered loss to the extent of only \$123,000 odd, and that money—an average rate of one-half per cent—has been saved to the city by the system of borrowing from this fund. Such being the case, why not borrow the whole fund now and continue to save the difference in interest? If the plan served well a year ago, it is equally good now. The reply to this is that under various acts of legislation a sinking fund must exist, definitely regulated, to meet debentures falling due. This is simple, but these same acts have been in existence for the past fourteen years during which time the fund has been diverted, and they have been ignored. Here another paragraph of the explanation, so-called, comes in. It was the officials at City Hall who were to blame. These officials neglected their duty, and diverted the fund, for convenience, to improper uses. But it is not set forth in the explanation that the Common Council is above the officials, that the people look to the council and not to the employees for good government, and that had any of the aldermen in any of the past fourteen years done their duty in seeing that the officials did their duty in turn, the present complications would not exist. The officials acted improperly for at least fourteen years. What guarantee is there that they will be compelled to act properly in future? The auditors have never once noted that the sinking fund has been touched. Will the auditors in the future give it proper attention? Ald. Bullock in his explanation hopes that they will, but Ald. Bullock will not be chairman of the Treasury Board for many more weeks, and his careful attention will be lacking. He has, however, made some several points. One of these is that the sinking fund will be restored;

another that in so far as provision can now be made it will remain undisturbed in the future; and, thirdly, that the sins of past generations of aldermen should not be visited on present members of the council. These now in office should be held answerable only for that neglect which has permitted some \$120,000 of the sinking fund to be improperly used.

ACT ON THE REPORT.

Three or four years ago in obedience to popular sentiment the common council appointed a committee consisting of Chief Kerr, Chief Clerk and Director Wisely to investigate conditions in the city schools and other public buildings and report on the precautions necessary as protection against fire. Following that report, some changes and improvements were made in theatres and certain other institutions owned and operated by private parties. In buildings directly under the control of the city either through the school board or the council, few of the suggestions made were adopted. Improvements in the fire alarm system were brought about but no material changes were effected. The city was practically the only organization which ignored its own report.

A month ago another committee was appointed, somewhat different in makeup from that of a few years ago, to go over the same ground. The report of this committee was presented yesterday. It is a lengthy document and goes more into detail than did the previous one, but the suggestions are practically the same. The faults which have been discovered in the city schools are identical with those which existed when the other investigation was made, and there is still the same need for reform. Between the presentations of these two reports the city of St. John by the vote of the common council and the board of School Trustees has brought into effect the compulsory education act. Children must go to school whether they or their parents wish it or not. No boys or girls are allowed to remain at home because of the fact that their parents consider the buildings unsafe. They are forced to attend by the deeds of those who govern St. John. Meanwhile, the same causes tending to create a panic there have for several years neglected to protect the lives of the children as they have been advised to do. They are now in this position that if a fire should occur in any city school and a number of children be killed or injured the city would be directly responsible in actions brought by the parents of those children. The compulsory education act takes away one line of defence which the city might possibly adopt. The criminal neglect of the past three years in the face of the report presented by these officers is direct evidence of the liability of the city. This liability will continue until the suggestions made in the report presented yesterday are carried into effect. For the second time St. John has been warned that practically all of its schools are dangerous and that in the event of fire, or from other causes tending to create a panic there would undoubtedly be loss of life. The most recent report has been referred to the school trustees and a committee. It should be acted upon without delay.

THE BAND STAND.

The band stand proposition has been sent back for further consideration. This is the most sensible course that could have been adopted. The members of the City Cornet Band who have displayed such a creditable desire to provide entertainment for their fellow citizens and who have been so energetic in promoting this affair, will realize that there can be two honest opinions on the matter. They will see that a different location from the one chosen, which would be suitable to all, would be much better than their own first choice if animosity is created. The desire of the citizens for a band stand in a central location, hearty support will be given to the project, but it is better that all people should be pleased.

Ald. McGoldrick yesterday took the opportunity to deliver a parting eulogy of himself and the other members of the council. He glories in the fact that civic affairs have been conducted on a thoroughly business-like system. The financial reports do not wholly harmonize with the opinions expressed by the alderman from Stanley.

Montreal is rapidly becoming a second New York in point of crime. Unless a reaction sets in, the death rate from murders will be equal to the infant mortality due to poor milk. Between milkmen and bad Italians the commercial metropolis is having a hard time.

There is in Brooklyn a young, recently married couple who have been having the usual half-past-thirty and wholly amusing experiences incident to somewhat limited means and total inexperience. Last Saturday there was a hitch in the delivery of the marketing, and Sunday found them with a practically empty larder. When dinner time came the young wife burst into tears. "Oh, this is horrible!" she wept. "Not a thing in the house fit for a dog to eat. I am going home to mamma!" "If you don't mind, dear," the husband exclaimed, as he visibly brightened and reached for his hat, "I'll go with you!"

Do not think your lot is hard, Cheerless like December, Irving has some bargains yet. "Fifty-five Kinas"—remember.

### ...An Idler's... Idle Ruminations

I have long been acquainted with a district in this province, about eight miles long by two miles wide, in which some curious problems are brought forward for solution. It was about twenty-five years ago that chemical fertilizers were first used to any considerable extent by the farmers of this district. Twenty years ago by the application of 80 pounds of these fertilizers to the acre some of them grew 80 to 100 bushels of oats, 200 to 400 bushels of potatoes and three to five tons of hay per acre. Now, twenty years later, it is only possible, with the application of a third more of the fertilizer to grow 40 to 50 bushels of oats, 200 to 300 bushels of potatoes and a ton and a half to two tons of hay per acre. Is the fertilizer of inferior quality, or does it exhaust the soil, or does it exhaust the soil as alcohol affects the human system? I am inclined to think the latter is the case. A persistent use of these fertilizers will in time render a soil, in my opinion, wholly unproductive, just as a persistent use of alcohol, to excess will render a human being wholly useless. The only way to restore the soil to its former fertility is by the use of nature's fertilizers, of which enough are swept into the harbor of St. John every year to make St. John, Kings and Charlotte counties luxuriant gardens. I remember travelling through North and South Carolina and Georgia more than fifty years ago and passing great tobacco and cotton farms where the soil was red as bricks and not even a weed would take root. The manions of their owners were unoccupied and falling into decay. I enquired the cause of this condition of affairs and was told that the life of the soil had been destroyed by over stimulation with gunn—just as soil in New Brunswick is being murdered by artificial manures and men by alcohol.

In that little district to which I have referred there have been sixteen deaths, nine births and eight marriages during the last four years. It promises to be a wilderness in forty or fifty years if new blood is not introduced and some means devised by which the soil fertility can be restored. The waste of natural fertilizers on this continent alone amounts to hundreds of millions of dollars annually. If it is persisted in it will bring starvation upon our grandchildren. Nature refuses to be trifled with, and she will not permit the casting of the food of the soil into the sea or the dump and permitting the soil to starve, or slaughtering it with stimulants that flatter at first and in the end destroy.

### ONE DRINK; REJECTED; HE SHOOTS HIMSELF

Young Man Attempts Suicide When Gled Said She Wouldn't Have Him

PITTSBURG, April 6.—His sweet heart having rejected him because he took one drink of liquor, Harry Brown, aged 20, this morning fired a bullet through his chest near the heart, and his recovery is not looked for.

"She gave me up for another fellow because I took one drink," moaned Brown. "It was in the rear of a physician's home that he tried to kill himself."

The shot ignited Brown's clothing, and the flames were quenched by persons who were attracted by the report. Twenty minutes before he committed the deed he is said to have written a note to Miss Majority Benninger, of Mount Washington, the last words of which are:

"Well, good-bye, Mary, from your boy Harry."

MILLIONS ARE STARVING

The Dry Weather Causes Crop Failure in India.

CALCUTTA, April 6.—The Indian famine has assumed such grave proportions that the world may be asked to contribute to save the millions who are actually starving. Lord Minto recently presided at a public meeting in the town hall to consider measures for relief.

Five millions of the inhabitants of India are suffering from the failure of crops. It is estimated that the money loss from the crop failure is \$15,000,000. Dry and torrid weather is responsible for the suffering and practically all of the crops in the United Provinces failed.

The Central English Government has aided very materially in checking the suffering of its subjects abroad.

Proper Glasses.

Don't be discouraged if you have been unsuccessful in getting proper glasses. Consult D. BOYANER, Graduate Optician. He guarantees satisfaction. Call at 38 Dock St.

Store open till 9 p. m.

"BETTER THAN EVER."

Is what one of our customers said when he looked over our line of Men's \$3.00 Boots. This is the price he has been paying for some years now and in view of what he had been reading about rising prices, increases and the like, was prepared to pay much more, but he was delighted with what we could give him for his \$3.00.

If this is your price you will be pleased with our styles and we are proud to show them.

The Best \$3 Shoe to be had.

PERCY J. STEEL, FOOT FURNISHER, 519-521 Main St. SUCCESSOR TO WM. YOUNG.

### DIVORCE THE FASHION, ASSERTS ARCHBISHOP

War Is Raged on Christian Marriages, Says Mgr. John Ireland

ST. PAUL, April 6.—Archbishop John Ireland, of St. Paul, has written a letter to the clergy and laity of this archdiocese on the subject of marriage and divorce. The letter will be read in all the churches of the archdiocese tomorrow morning. Its occasion is the recent encyclical on marriage issued by Pope Pius X. The letters says in part:

"In the teaching of Christ the marriage contract is indissoluble. Human laws cannot dissolve it. The church, in its spiritual supremacy, cannot dissolve it."

"The cessation of the contract, the remarriage to another of husband or wife, renders faithless or motherless the children of the first marriage, dissipates in their souls the sanctity of the home."

"Today, as never before, war is made upon Christian marriages. The contract of marriage is stripped of all religious ceremonial, of all sacred meaning. It becomes a mere barter of hearts and fortunes, hastily entered into as the most insignificant of commercial exchanges, to be no less hastily burst asunder and forgotten."

"Divorce is almost the fashion. Nations vie with one another in yielding up their statute books to its decrees. Our own America leads in the race to do honor to its empire. Our record in this regard is most shameful."

FOUNT OF YOUTH

The secret of long living Unless he learns to master It thoroughly you masticate, Your troubles will be few, If you would live forever, And chew, chew, chew.

To train your jawbones clever Then manfully endeavor The man who bolts his victuals, Who madly rushes through, Will find a stomach ailment Is to chew, chew, chew.

If he keeps eating faster, The end will be disaster The chew, chew, chew.

It isn't ready money, Or garments gray and new That makes a fellow happy Or paints things anubus It comes with good digestion, That's true beyond a question, So heed the wise suggestion— And chew, chew, chew.

Sporting men have figured out that trackrac bettors spent \$300,000,000 a year in the United States.

A London clergyman says the ancient Jewish religious music was sung with bagpipe accompaniment. They have been over 50,000 church bells cast in Troy, N. Y., since the first foundry was built there in 1825.

STUFFINESS

For that "stuffed up" hard to breathe condition that so often accompanies a cold, Brown's Bronchial Balsam furnishes in most cases immediate relief. Its prompt and efficient action in such conditions is one of its best recommendations. A pleasant, safe, prompt and effective remedy is

Brown's Bronchial Balsam

For all Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, etc. Price, 25c. Prepared and sold only by E. CLINTON BROWN, DRUGGIST.

Two stores—Corner Union and Waterloo streets, and South End Pharmacy, corner Queen and Carmarthen streets.

Dr. C. Sydney Emerson, DENTIST, 24 Wellington Row.

Office hours from 9 a. m. to 12 m. and from 2 p. m. to 5 p. m. Phone 122.

Golden Eagle Flour.

They were about to entertain a few friends, and her husband suddenly busied himself with the umbrellas, carrying them upstairs. When he had taken up the last one she said to him, somewhat amazed:

"Why, dear, why do you hide the umbrellas like that? Are you afraid our friends will steal them?"

"No," said he; "I am afraid they will recognize them."

Mandy was a young colored girl fresh from the cotton fields of the South. One afternoon she came to her Northern mistress and handed her a visiting card.

"De lady wha' giv me dis is in de pe'lor," she exclaimed. "Dey's anudder lady on de do'step."

"Gracious, Mandy!" exclaimed the mistress. "Why didn't you ask both of them to come in?"

"Kase, m'am, de one on de do'step done forgi't her ticket."

FERGUSON & PAGE. Jewelry, Etc. 41 King St.

STILL IN BUSINESS. We deliver dry, heavy Soft Wood and kindling, cut in store lengths, at \$1.00 per Load. McNAMARA BROS., Chesley St. Phone 753.

\$3.00 SHOES FOR LADIES.

We are showing some of the finest lines in Ladies' Footwear ever seen at this price.

PATENT COLT GOODYEAR WELTED BUTTON OXFORD, \$3.00. PATENT COLT GOODYEAR WELTED ELICHER OXFORD, \$3.00. PATENT COLT DULL MAT KID TOP BUTTON BOOT, \$3.00. PATENT COLT DULL MAT KID TOP SLICKER BOOT, \$3.00. Sizes 5 to 7; width, C, D, E.

Fancis & Vaughan 19 KING STREET.

EGGS Received direct from the Henery GUARANTEED STRICTLY FRESH CLOVER FARM DAIRY Cor. Queen & Carmarthen Sts. Phone 1508

M. T. KANE, Dealer in Granite Monuments, Opposite Cedar Hill Cemetery, West St. John. Telephone Works West 177-21.

To the Electors of Queens Ward

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:— I will be a Candidate for Alderman to represent Queens Ward at the ensuing Civic Election, and kindly solicit your support.

Yours respectfully, HENRY DUNBRACK, March 31, '08. 3-4 tf

TODAY.

Today, a prattling child, goes forth attended By two unfeeling nurses, forms half-resembling, That with its shadow on the way are bleeding, And all its noise may startle not their dreaming.

Their eyes are sealed, Their dark lips give no tidings, Tomorrow, Yesterday, they turn them never. Today, to each a hand confiding, A sound between two silences forever.

STUDYING UP HISTORY.

As the small boy was standing on one of the best library chairs, and claving with his grubby paws some of the choicest bindings in the bookstore, his propellor, entering suddenly, cried rather sharply:

"What are you doing at that bookcase, Wilfred?"

"Tryin' to find the History of England, father."

"Why, Joe Billings at our school says that Tait played for Tottenham Hot-spurs this year before last, and I say he didn't!"

"Why, dear, why do you hide the umbrellas like that? Are you afraid our friends will steal them?"

"No," said he; "I am afraid they will recognize them."

Mandy was a young colored girl fresh from the cotton fields of the South. One afternoon she came to her Northern mistress and handed her a visiting card.

"De lady wha' giv me dis is in de pe'lor," she exclaimed. "Dey's anudder lady on de do'step."

"Gracious, Mandy!" exclaimed the mistress. "Why didn't you ask both of them to come in?"

"Kase, m'am, de one on de do'step done forgi't her ticket."

TRY 'EM ON, We Have Lots More if These Don't Fit.

We would sell more \$5.00 Shoes if we didn't have these for \$4.00. Men come in with the intention of paying \$5.00, see the \$4.00 Soes, and it's all up with the \$5.00. Sounds pretty rough on the \$5.00 Shoes, but it isn't; works the same way there—the men who usually buy \$6.00 Shoes get them here for \$5.00. Unless all signs fail, we are going to do an immense shoe business this Spring. People get the best shoe satisfaction here and we get the business.

D. MONAHAN, - - - 32 Charlotte Street, The Home of Good Shoes.

FINE FURS.

Ladies' Persian Lamb Jackets, Mink Trimmed; also Fur-Lined Garments, trimmed in the fashionable Furs—Mink Stoles, Boas and Throwovers, Muffs to match; Persian Lamb Scarfs and Muffs, and a great assortment of Neck Furs in our well-known qualities.

THORNE BROS., HATTERS and FURRIERS, 93 King Street

Skinner's Carpet Warerooms, SPRING 1908.

A MOST COMPLETE STOCK OF Union, Wool, Tapestry, Velvet, Brussels, Wilton and Axminster Carpets and Carpet Squares, IN NEW DESIGNS AND COLORS.

New designs in Oilcloths, Linoleums and Inlaid—all widths and prices.

Muslin, Lace, Irish Point, Swiss, and Marie Antoinette Curtains in the latest novelties. Carpets can be selected, made up and stored until required.

A. O. SKINNER, STRONG TO PAY AND FAIR TO SETTLE.

THE EQUITY FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. J. M. QUEEN, Manager for New Brunswick. PHONE MAIN 1540. Canada Life Building, 60 Prince William St., St. John, N. B.

At McLEAN'S

Large size brown bowls, 3 for 10c. Best quality Tumblers, 3 for 10c. Plates decorated, 5 for 25c. Toweling 5c. yard. White Lawn, 40 inches wide, 10c. yard. A lot of Sample Bibs, 5c. to 25c. These are travellers' samples, 25c. per cent. off. Another lot of 10 and 15c. parlor, hall and dining room wall paper, for 5c. a roll. Are you getting your share of bargains at

McLean's Department Store, 142 Mill St. Open Evenings Until 9.30.

QUEER ANIMALS OF THE ARCTIC. That there are strange animals in the Arctic goes without saying, and amongst the most singular yet discovered are the musk oxen of extreme northern Greenland, beyond the almost impassable ice cap, which has only been traversed by Peary and by Nansen. The musk ox itself is common enough in North America, the curious thing is now harder of them should be found in an apparently inaccessible situation, where they could not survive the winter, and from which there is no known outlet by which they might by migration escape the severity of that season. Similarly, some years ago a daring explorer penetrated 5,000 miles beyond civilization to the verge of the Siberian Arctic in the Lena area, and there found, of all things, a sheep of gigantic size, previously unknown to science. That the Arctic holds more curious creatures still is undoubted and accounts of these, however fanciful, will continue to attract men to the frozen North until all its strange things are discovered.

England has 14 churches for every 100,000 people. In Russia there are 53 churches for a similar number. After standing for 857 years the fine old church of Malstead, near Ripon, England, has been burned down.

Alcohol

Ask your doctor if a family medicine, like Ayer's Sarsaparilla, is not vastly better without alcohol than with it.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla NON-ALCOHOLIC

A Strong Tonic - - Without Alcohol  
A Body Builder - - Without Alcohol  
A Blood Purifier - - Without Alcohol  
A Great Alternative - - Without Alcohol  
A Doctor's Medicine - - Without Alcohol  
Ayer's Sarsaparilla - - Without Alcohol  
Free from Alcohol

J. C. AYER CO., Manufacturing Chemists, Lowell, Mass.