

ST. JOHN STAR, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6 1906

FOOT

YOU WANT A Tooth Brush

that the Bristles will not come out of and make you run the risk of appendicitis.

You can get it at the
ROYAL PHARMACY,
47 King Street.
We make a specialty of First-class Goods.

Ready-Made Clothing

is nice for a week, but Clothing made by me wears twice as long and retains its style until worn out.

W. H. TURNER,
Custom Tailor, 440 Main Street.



A TEMPTATION.

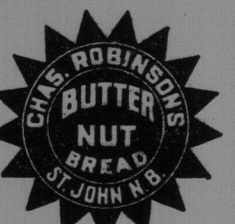
Come in and see our Bracelets, Collar Pins, Brooches, Neckties, and get our prices on Watches—compare them with the other kinds on the market, note the prices we ask, carefully, and see if you can resist the temptation to buy.

L. A. & J. HAY, -- 76 King St.

Steamer Maggie Miller
leaves Millville for Somerville, Kennebunk Island and Baywater daily, except Saturday and Sunday at 9 a. m., 3 and 5 p. m., returning from Baywater at 7 and 10 a. m. and 2 45 p. m. Saturday at 7 15 a. m. and 9 a. m. and 3 and 5 p. m., returning at 6 30, 8 30 and 10 30 a. m. and 2 45 p. m. Sunday at 9 and 10 30 a. m. and 2 45 p. m. returning at 2 45 a. m. and 5 p. m.
JOHN McLEOD, Agent.

NOTICE.

WE are distributing this week from house to house circulars about



Some imitations of Butter Nut Bread are very good in appearance. Unfortunately the purchaser has not the opportunity of applying the "Eating" test before buying.

To prevent unfair judgment of the genuine N. B. Bread please read the Circular carefully.

N. B.—Occasionally labels fall off. Purchaser should then look for the word **Butternut** stamped on bottom of loaf.

We're Ready Again

to supply all your wants in the baking line. We have returned to our old premises again and we are in better shape than ever. Ask for our Home Made Bread at your grocers.

McKeil's Bakery,
124 Motocalf St.; Branch 66 Wall St.
Phone 1225

For \$1.00 Per Load

We will deliver kindling and heavy soft wood, cut in stove lengths.

Send post card or call.
McNAMARA BROS.,
65 Chesley Street.

Buy Your Coal From The GARSON COAL CO.

Best quality, good weight, and satisfactory delivery, lowest prices. We have a five hundred ton schooner on the way from mines with guaranteed best quality Honey-brook Lehigh American hard coal. "Phone 1603."

WOOD—When you are thinking of Wood—Hard, Soft or Kindling—call up 468.

City Fuel Co.,
City Road.

WELL, Now for Grapes For preserving and eating. Get them while they last, at 30 cts. per basket, at

CHAS. A. CLARK'S,
The "Grocer" 49 Charlotte St.

GOOD IN POLITICS.

Gunner—"I am going to try to sell my automobile."
Geyer—"To whom?"
Gunner—"Oh, some politician."
Geyer—"But why a politician?"
Gunner—"Because it is such a good mud thrower."

THE ST. JOHN STAR is published by THE SUN-PRINTING COMPANY, (Ltd.) at St. John, New Brunswick, every afternoon (except Sunday) at \$3.00 a year.

TELEPHONES—
BUSINESS OFFICE, 2.
EDITORIAL and NEWS DEPT., 117.

ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., NOVEMBER 6, 1906.

THE ASSESSMENT COMMISSION'S REPORT.

The long-looked-for report of the assessment commission has at last been presented and promises to prove the principal topic of discussion for some time to come. It cannot be said that the commissioners exhibited any undue haste in placing their views before the people, but in this there is the assurance that all points relating to taxation have been carefully and deliberately considered. The report as a whole is not a loose jumble of ideas, thrown together in an effort to perform a tiresome duty, but is a carefully outlined plan for the entire remodelling of the present system. It is now before the public for discussion, it will be the subject for deliberations by the common council, the board of trade, and should be carefully studied by all individual citizens who are in any way interested. It is an easy matter to criticize the work of others, but a very different thing to construct new ideas and to apply principles. Thus there should be no harsh or hasty condemnation of any sections of the report or of the men whose names are appended to it, but those persons who, when invited, did not deem it worth their while to offer suggestions to the commissioners at the commencement of the undertaking.

The men whose names are appended to the report are successful merchants and financiers, of high mental calibre, who have nothing to gain or lose, more than has the ordinary citizen, by a re-adjustment of the assessment. Selfishness or any other feeling which might tend to a biased judgment may be entirely disregarded, and the report presented may be looked upon as the honest conviction of the commissioners to be the very best system of civic taxation possible in St. John. More than this, while a few citizens have given some time to the study of the principles contained therein, there probably none in the city who have gone so deeply or so carefully into the subject as have these commissioners, and thus there are none so well qualified to criticize. The public generally may rest assured that the system now proposed is the plan clearly advocated by disinterested men, having a mass of information on their subject, and possessing an accurate knowledge of what is required for St. John.

That there are suggestions in the report and clauses in the bill which are open to criticism and which will undoubtedly give rise to strong opposition is admitted, and by none more freely than by the commissioners themselves. In such a matter it is utterly impossible to satisfy all, and as a rule the man who will be asked to pay more taxes will object. This cannot be avoided, but it is unlikely that after due consideration thoughtful citizens will persist in maintaining what must be at the best but a selfish view. They will doubtless realize that under the plan proposed there will be a more reasonable and equitable distribution of the burden, and that many of the evils existing under the present system will be done away with.

There can be no altering or re-arranging of the proposed bill. It provides for a system of taxation complete in itself, one in which all the sections are carefully fitted together and the dominant principles interlocking toward a perfect whole. It must be either accepted or rejected in its entirety, for the introduction of minor plans or the alteration of proposed methods would certainly lead to confusion. Efforts will be made by persons of several classes to upset the bill, but if after free and open discussion on the part of the public the common council decide in its favor, no influence should be allowed to stand in the way of having it pass the legislature. St. John projects have repeatedly been ruined by the lobbying abilities of parties who have objected to matters which legislation has been sought. Nothing of the kind should happen now.

The assessment commissioners have wisely put their ideas in the form of a draft bill which accompanies their report. Two or three sections are merely definitions of terms used, then on a section nineteen will be found the method of assessment proposed; the remainder of the bill deals with the levying and collecting of taxes. It would appear that the suggested system will provide a fairer distribution of taxation than prevails at present that the poor will be relieved from what is now an unreasonable burden that the wealthy will be asked to pay a moderate amount on all their possessions, and that corporations will contribute more than in the past. These changes, speaking generally, are in line with the serious causes for complaint now existing. It has been found in possible to eliminate the personal property tax, even by distributing it under other heads, but a readjustment in application has been made which should meet with the approval of all. The income tax has been treated in the same way, and it is altogether

likely that the generous exemptions proposed for small incomes will not result in the least loss to the city, as many of those who will be entirely free from income tax under the proposed system are unable to pay and, in fact, do not pay under the present system. Exemption is granted on all incomes under three hundred dollars, and a scale has been proposed for reductions in the assessment on incomes up to nine hundred dollars.

Roughly speaking, the rental value, or earning power of everything taxable is taken as the basis for assessment, real estate, personal property, and ratepayers. This principle is variously applied, and its application is so clearly set forth that with care there should be no difficulty in maintaining a fair distribution of the taxation than is felt at present. Real estate is asked to pay on its true value, and not according to the whim of the assessors. Personal property, consisting of stocks and movable machinery, will pay on half its value; that consisting of money and securities on five times its earnings, or in other words, on five times the interest derived instead of on its full value as at present; residential property, income, excluding the value of the land. Under this latter clause persons occupying residences renting at less than one hundred dollars, escape residential personal property taxation. A business assessment is provided which is a new feature in taxation in St. John, and seems fully justified by existing conditions.

Generally all classes will be asked to pay more on real estate; the wealthier people will contribute at a lower rate on more of their personal property; incomes, excluding the smaller amounts will remain the same; merchants will pay for the privilege of doing business, and banks, insurance companies and corporations will, as a rule, be taxed more heavily. One excellent feature of the system of assessment is a clause which will no doubt put an end to the habit prevailing among companies doing business in St. John, of making their head offices in Rothesay or Fairville or elsewhere, and thus escaping taxation. If the proposed bill is adopted such companies will be assessed the same as if their imaginary offices were in St. John.

In the system proposed for the levying of taxes there are many good features, one, which is sorely needed here, is a different method of appointment of assessors. The commissioners propose that three men shall be chosen, the chairman by the common council, one by the mayor, and the third by the council of the board of trade. The court of revision shall consist of the judge of the county court and two others, to be appointed by the common council and the board of trade. This is an excellent suggestion and will certainly be found to work well in practice. Employers are not to be asked to give information on the income or property of their employees. Every ratepayer must stand on his own feet, and will be requested to furnish the necessary information. Unless he does so, he will lose the privilege of appealing against the assessment. The commissioners evidently believe that fear of punishment is a more powerful incentive than hope of reward. They propose that no discount shall be allowed on taxes paid before a fixed date, but that on all overdue amounts interest, at the rate of one half per cent. per month shall be charged. This will mean a considerable saving to the city.

There are many good points in the bill, and some which do not appeal so strongly at first glance. But whoever cares to study the suggested system will find that as a whole it is a comprehensive and equitable plan of assessment. It is worthy of the fullest discussion before definite action is taken. The columns of the Star are open to all correspondents, and this paper invites expressions of opinion from all. The only condition made is that communications must be signed by the writers, the names to be appended to the published letters.

PRIVATE SIGNALS

Book Was Thrown Overboard From Cruiser Vindictive.

Sailor Who Had Charge Is Under Arrest and Divers are Now Searching for Missing Book—Is of Great Value

The London Express of recent date says:—According to reliable information received by The Express, the code signal book of the cruiser Vindictive, now at Sheerness, has been lost. The book contains the private signals of the Channel fleet, and its loss is not only a matter of profound importance to the navy, but to the empire.

The sailor who had charge of the book under the supervision of an officer has been arrested, and so much importance is attached to the affair that the man under arrest declares that he is tired of the service, and that he threw the book overboard when the midshipman was not looking, in order that he might be dismissed from the navy.

These secret signal books of the fleet contain information of the very highest value to any great power, with which Great Britain might find herself at war. It is well known that they are the secret service agents of foreign governments, who are always to be found in the neighborhood of naval stations, will pay enormous sums to obtain possession of one.

In evidence given before a Royal Commission a few years ago, it was stated that France spent £100,000 a year on her secret services, and it is well known that Germany spends twice this sum annually, and Russia an almost equally large amount.

The signal books are guarded with the greatest care. At the close of each watch the officer on the watch must satisfy himself that the book is safe, and his relief's first duty is to verify this. During the watch the warrant officer is responsible to the lieutenant for its safe-keeping.

Should the signal book of the Vindictive not be recovered, it is probable that the whole or most of the secret codes in use throughout the fleet would have to be re-issued at an enormous cost of time and labor, and grave inconvenience to the navy.

WHEN IS A WOMAN OLD.

He—"When would you call a woman old?"
She—"When she no longer takes any interest in clothes."
He—"Gracious! When she's that way she's dead."

Given a staple article, and no amount of advertising will give it a permanent and profitable sale unless it is backed by merit; on the other hand, if you do not make it known it will fail, however great the merit.—Earl & Wilson, N. Y.

Dr. C. Sydney Emerson, DENTIST,

34 Wellington Row.
Painless Work a Specialty.

Office hours from 9 a. m. to 12 m. and from 2 p. m. to 5 p. m.
Phone 112.

Grütz, 5 lb. bags, 25c

Grütz, 5 lb. bags, 25c

Grütz, 5 lb. bags, 25c

Grütz, 5 lb. bags, 25c

All notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths must be endorsed with the names and addresses of the persons sending same.

BIRTHS.

McNAB—Nov. 5th, to the wife of C. D. McNab, a son.

DEATHS.

ESTABROOKS—In this city, on Nov. 6th, Helen Gertrude, only child of William G. and Georgia Estabrooks. Funeral service at residence, 367 Douglas Avenue Thursday at 2 30 p. m.

FERGUSON & PAGE, JEWELERS, ETC.

Fine Diamonds, Watches, Clocks, Silverware, Cut Glass.

A complete up-to-date stock in all our various lines.
41 King Street.

MOVING To Larger Premises, 94 Germain Street

FRANK P. VAUGHAN,
Electrical Engineer and Contractor,
Phone 319. St. John, N. B.

The West St. John Office of St. John STAR

E. R. W. INGRAHAM'S,
DRUGGIST,
127 UNION STREET

Advertisements and Subscriptions left there will receive careful attention.

COUPONS FREE

WE will give a coupon for the Times voting contest free with every 10 cent purchase, and with every Star sold at the regular price of 1c each.

EVANGELINE CIGAR STORE,

733 Main Street.

BOYS WILL HAVE CITY OF THEIR OWN

Community of 5,000, from 11 to 17 Years Old, to be Started at Winooski, Ind.

CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 5.—Boys are to have a city all their own at Lake Winooski, Ind., where a community of 5,000 persons, ranging in age from eleven to seventeen years, will be organized as a complete municipality, with wards, city council, mayor, and administrative departments. Such is the plan for a boy Chateaufort to be associated with the Winooski Assembly, which has been formed by philanthropists of that body. The boy city is to make its bow to the public during three weeks in next August.

The movement was started a short time ago in Indianapolis at a meeting attended by thirty prominent business and professional men connected with the Winooski Assembly and Winona Technical School. J. M. Studebaker, of South Bend, is chairman, and Judge Willis Brown, of the Juvenile Court, of Salt Lake City, Utah, director of the venture. The five thousand boys, who otherwise would spend their vacation time in idling cities, will be taken to the Indiana Lake and taught co-operation and discipline, together with the more academic subjects of the lecture room.

There will be eight wards in the Boy City, each one of which will elect a representative to the City Council. The Council will meet once or twice a week. A grocery, a notion and a candy store, a soda water fountain, a restaurant, a to be owned and operated by stock companies of boys, each under the charge of an adult. At the end of the season the profits will be distributed as dividends. These various enterprises will be organized by the management and will be ready for business the opening day.

Each boy will be expected to provide his own provisions. He may bring them with him or buy them at the grocery, and may eat his meals at the restaurant, where the prices will be only a little more than cost. Fuel, laundry and other necessities will be supplied by the management. The boys will live in tents holding four and eight occupants. These will be set up by the management without cost, to the boys, the small advanced fee charged each for his three weeks' residence in the city, including his tent, cot, light, fuel, heat and water. There will be five permanent buildings in the city—the assembly hall, general store and supply house, gymnasium hand stand and electrical and photographic shops.

One of the features will be a telephone system, by means of which the boys will be taught the rudiments of telephone conversation.

OUR SLIPPER SHOW!

We call our Slipper Show "Our Slipper Show" for it's nothing short of a "Show." This is the season of the year when slippers are in great demand, and we have taken unusual care to provide a splendid assortment.

We've Slippers for all occasions and for every member of the family. Slippers, that Ladies will delight to wear—Slippers for home, or for balls and receptions. Slippers that will stop the noise of the romping Boys. Slippers for the Babies, and Slippers that will keep the "Governor" of the family happy and contented by his own fire-side.

Excuse us, please, from trying to describe the styles. It would be an endless task.

Slippers from 75c. to \$1.85

Come to our Slipper Show. You'll hardly know which pair to select—they are so handsome.

D. L. MONAHAN,
106 King St., West End.

Think It Over!

WE'RE selling a man's Box Calf Blucher Boot with heavy double soles for \$2.25 a pair. Not a cheap boot, but one you usually pay much higher for.

Another snap for the careful buyer is our **Box Calf Bal.** (extra good quality of stock), with heavy double sole, that we're letting our customers have **For \$2.50 a Pair.**

These are no sample lots or old stock, but Fresh New Goods at Sample Prices, and there's no risk for you. Get your money back if not satisfied.

SANBORN'S SHOE STORE, 339 Main St.

If You Have a Cough We Have the Cough Cure!

If you haven't a Cough NOW IS THE TIME to tone up your system, so that danger will not find you in a weakened condition.

SEE US ABOUT IT.

W. J. McMILLIN, Pharmacist,
675 Main Street.
Phone 980.

SPORT IN CRIME

Great Thieves Who Play the Game Joyously.

Chief of Scotland Yard Gives Some Illustrations of the Methods of Big Men in the "Profession."

Sir Robert Anderson, late head of the British Criminal Investigation Department at Scotland Yard, has been writing to The Daily Graphic concerning the criminal of sporting tendencies. He holds the theory that "just as the sportsman enjoys the anticipation of his sport, and delights in talking over his successes and his failures, so is it with the criminal of sporting tendencies. Indeed our national love of sport largely influences the character of English crime, which is generally free from the brutality which marks the crimes of other races.

Sir Robert tells three stories in illustration of his theory. Here they are: With a convinced disciple of Hobbes, who ignores the Ten Commandments and suffers from no twinges of conscience, stalking a deer is poor work in comparison with stalking a millionaire. The brutal criminal who covets the rich man's hoard will murder his victim and break open his safe with the sledge hammer. But this is utterly unworthy of the sportsman. And the "Dick Turpin" of the present day cannot take to the highway, like his prototype. He must have recourse to modern methods. I need not draw upon my imagination here; for "truth is stranger than fiction," and my memory will supply me with illustrations.

HILPED TO ROB HIMSELF.
The hero of my first story rented a bedroom near the railway station from which the Diver he was stalking travelled daily to town. Well-dressed and well-groomed, he took his seat in the same compartment, attracting notice only by his apparent desire to remain unnoticed while he dealt with the papers he carried in a stylish handbag. One morning after a few journeys he gave vent to his annoyance at having forgotten his keys. A stranger sitting in the opposite corner politely offered him his hand in the hope that he would find on it a key to open the bag. But none of them would fit the lock. At the suggestion of the stranger (who, of course, was an accomplice) Diver then produced his bunch of keys, and a few seconds sufficed to enable the thief to take a wax impression of the key of Diver's safe. A few weeks later the safe was rifled, and before the crime was discovered the thief was across the Channel with his booty.

THE TRANSMUTATION OF GOLD.
This trick has been often played, but the plot I am about to describe is absolutely unique. The genius who planned it claimed to have discovered the master secret of the transmutation of the double weight of gold. One of our great city houses, on being approached in strict confidence, offered him facilities to test his scheme. But he "thought scorn" to treat a few hundred sovereigns; it would not be worth his while to deal with less than £20,000. Of course, the merchants had no risks, for they could take adequate precautions against pilfering or fraud. The fellow stipulated that no one but him-