POOR DOCUMENT

MC 2033

HON. MR. BLAIR ON TELEPHONES

He Says No Merger is in Any Way Probable

HAD AN OFFER

But It Was Not Satisfactory to N. B. Company—He Discusses His Company's Action in Cutting Off the Central's Connections.

Hon. A. G. Blair, president of the N. B. Telephone Company, Tuesday gave to a reporter his views with respect to telephone matters. He said his company had abstained entirely from sending up sky-rockets, re telephones, every morning by means of the newspaper press, as had been done by their competitor. The New Brunswick Company had been moving along in the even tenor of its way, doing business and intending to do business as usual at the old stand. Persons who are being solicited to subscribe for the stock of another telephone company, he said, have been positively assured that the N. B. Telephone Company would be forced to agree to a merger with its competitor, and that the merger would take place almost immediately, in fact, according to these veracious gentlemen, it is only a question of hours. The object of these canvasses, he said, is to induce the public to subscribe for their stock, which would unquestionably become valuable by reason of the strong financial and business position of the N. B. Company. It is probable that a number of persons believing these representations have subscribed on the strength of them, but that is their own lookout. They will learn now, however, perhaps with dismay, that there has never been any foundation for these statements that a merger had been agreed upon, or would be likely to take place.

Mr. Blair said that while it is true his company had been approached and would have been willing to discuss this subject of merger as a business proposition on the basis of the actual value of the property of the respective companies, they would not entertain any proposal, the only merit which would be of a stock jobbing character.

Mr. Blair also added that the question of merger was definitely settled. There will be no merger. So far as the directors of the N. B. Company are able to judge there is not the remotest possibility of any offer being made to them in the future which it would be in their interest to accept.

Mr. Blair said he should like to avail himself of the present opportunity to acquaint the public interest with his company's reasons for their cutting off the Central Company's connections with their long distance lines at certain points. Nearly two years ago this company was asked by the Central to permit them to connect with any long distance lines, they should construct at St. John, Moncton and Fredericton, with the N. B. Company's subscribers in the exchanges mentioned. The Central people represented that they wished to maintain the friendliest relations with the New Brunswick Company, had not intention of entering into competition with them in the territory they, the N. B. Telephone Co., were occupying, their whole purpose being to confine themselves largely to farmers' lines.

Accepting these assurances as being made in good faith, and considering that the N. B. Telephone Company and Central Company under such circumstances would mutually benefit therefrom, the former entered into a contract allowing the privilege asked for, namely, connection with the three city exchanges of St. John, Moncton and Fredericton. No other localities were included in the arrangement, and none others were asked for. Ultimately it was discovered how little value was to be attached to the assurance which had been given by the Central Company. It was ascertained that the Central Company having apparently some pull with the railway department had succeeded in obtaining an order terminating the N. B. Telephone Company's contract for supplying the railway offices with telephones at Moncton, as soon as the existing contract should expire, or at latest on the first day of January next. Of this proceeding, the N. B. Telephone Company had no previous notice, notwithstanding that it had rendered a satisfactory service at a moderate rate to the railway department for nearly twenty years. The reason assigned for such action of the department was that the Central Company had offered the service at a less price than the N. B. Telephone Company had charged. There had been no new offers asked for by the department of the N. B. Telephone Company, nor has the Central Company any telephone lines in or into the city of Moncton, nor any exchange or instruments installed therein.

In addition to this Mr. Blair said his company had learned that the Central Company were persistently asserting that they had a contract with the N. B. Company entitling them to the use of the N. B. Company's entire system of long distance lines throughout the province, and that in fact the Central subscribers, or those whose subscription they could secure, would be in a better position than even the N. B. Company's subscribers themselves so far as the use of the extensive system of long distance lines of the N. B. Telephone Company were concerned. The board of directors of the N. B. Telephone Company had only one effective way to prove the falsity of these representations and that was by cutting off the Central Company from its connections with the N. B. Company's long distance lines, and this was done at all points excepting the three which the contract with the Central Company covered, and which contract has yet a year and a half to run.

The N. B. Telephone Company, he said, regretted extremely to have to discommode especially the Sackville and Chatham people who had been enjoying connections with that company long before and up to the time when the exchanges in those two towns were acquired by the Central Company.

The relations between these two companies, Mr. Blair mentioned, and his own company had been most friendly, and when this action became necessary in order to call attention in the most open and public manner to the misrepresentations referred to, it was the intention, and still is, with the least possible delay to locate pay stations at different points most convenient to persons who desire to use their long distance system.

The N. B. Company has been for nearly twenty years giving the people of New Brunswick a superior service at all the important centres at lower rates than are charged in any other province in Canada, or any state in the American Union. It has extended its lines as rapidly as its means have allowed, and as prudent management dictated. There can certainly, Mr. Blair said, be nothing gained by any community already served at reasonable rates by one telephone company, encouraging the introduction of a second.

Experience, he added, has proved that not only are two telephone systems in a town up to the size of our largest city a nuisance, but a most expensive nuisance as well.

SERGT. CAMPBELL FOUND GUILTY

Judge Ritchie Considered Assault on LeClair Proved by Evidence—No Penalty Imposed.

Judgment in the case against Police Sergeant Campbell, charged by Peter Le Clair with assaulting him at the I. C. R. pier on the 23rd. of July, was delivered by Judge Ritchie, at the police court Wednesday morning.

Sergeant Campbell was found guilty, but in view of the circumstances, instead of striking a fine of $20 against him, his honor allowed the case to drop.

In reviewing the case Judge Ritchie said that the prosecution had practically admitted that there had been a technical assault. He pointed out also that there was a contradiction in the evidence of the defence and prosecution. Campbell said that Le Clair had told him he would not go, for he was at work there. Le Clair, on the other hand, stated he did not tell Campbell that, but said he was expecting to go to work. The question arose, was there a laying on of hands? and secondly was the defendant justified in doing what he alleged he did. He was there in the employ of the company. It was necessary, of course, to discharge the fruit from the steamer, and the men who were landing it should be protected. The query then arises, can a policeman off duty be employed as a watchman by a citizen, and may he act as a policeman would act? It may be taken into consideration that the man who employed him was not a tax-payer.

His honor then went on to say that when a man came in from outside and was appointed on the police force and donned the uniform and helmet he was expected by many to know almost as much about the laws as those who had practiced law. When he first took up the willing, if the safety board would have it so, to instruct a newly appointed policeman in the law, as of old. His idea of a policeman's duty was not the getting of offenders, but to deter offence. He had told the policemen to do their duty. If a laboring man, with his dinner pail, was seen going home "under the influence of liquor," why should the officers not help him home? This applied, said his honor, to anybody. The offence was not so much in getting drunk, but in being "found drunk." But there again they were told down stairs, "get in all you can."

Policemen should not arrest discriminately or in violation of the law. The man making the least arrests was very often the best man. He would not get the stripes, he may not get extra work at the Opera House or other places when it is offered, but he was the best man.

His honor went on to say that he was willing to have officers come to him, and he could say that there was not one on the force today he had done other than assisted. If a policeman was properly instructed in his duties he could perform them, not like a Russian, saying, "I'm clothed with authority," but like Sergt. Baxter, for instance, one of the strongest and ablest men on the force. His honor then referred to the manner in which that official handled crowds.

On the wharf on the day of the assault were workingmen—our own people. Some were working, others were going to work. They saw what took place between Campbell and LeClair, and said—as they had in court—that they would not go to work. They didn't like the way Campbell was acting toward LeClair.

An officer, his honor went on to say, must exercise common sense. Were they vagrants or thieves? he asked. LeClair had said, "I'm here to go to work!" a fair proposition. Because there were certain laws, were they to be enforced to extremes? Where does the statute law apply to LeClair? Campbell said LeClair told him that he was working there. LeClair contradicts the statement. The question arose, was Campbell justified in laying hands on LeClair? His honor seemed to think that there was no reason in the evidence of the plaintiff. The defence admits technical assault.

But who was the man?—a laborer. If a merchant or lawyer were treated in the same way, wouldn't we consider it an outrage? A laborer was just as good, and, as long as he behaved respectably, was entitled to the same protection. LeClair had a right to be there. As soon as the defence admitted a technical assault, there must be an assault.

His honor thought that Campbell should not have done as he did. He was employed by a private party.

His honor said that the evidence was with LeClair.

He (the judge) had an option in the matter, he said, and in declaring Campbell guilty, instead of fining him $20 or two months, would allow the matter to drop.

After stating that the matter would make policemen more careful in ascertaining the extent of their power in doing duty, his honor dilated further on the duties of a police officer.

On Tuesday last the fourteen-year-old son of Captain Frank Stevens, of this city, broke his arm in Chipman.

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LOCAL NEWS.

Frank Lodge, son of Herbert Lodge, of Fairville, while working in Cushing's mill Wednesday had the upper half of two fingers of his right hand taken off by the edger saw. Dr. M. L. Macfarland attended him.

The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police will meet in Toronto during the first week in September. Chief Clark is preparing a paper to be read at the meeting. His subject is the New Brunswick police, with special reference to the St. John force.

A serious forest fire was reported back of Woodman's Point, and Westfield Thursday. The fire, it was said, started on land owned by Mr. Ross, and as the woods are very dry, the flames spread. Luckily, however, there was but little wind.

Florence Driscoll, employed as a baggage man in the I. C. R. station, took a weak spell Tuesday afternoon and it became necessary for him to relinquish work for the rest of the afternoon and go to his home. Mr. Driscoll is an old man and was troubled similarly on Monday.

Captain W. R. Marshall, district staff adjutant to Lieut.-Colonel White, D. O. C., left Tuesday for Hamilton (Ont.), where he will go into business with his father. It was reported that Major B. R. Armstrong was an applicant for the position, but he says he is not seeking it.

Miss Mary Byron, a sister of Edward John Byron, who was drowned in the river at Fredericton, contradicts the report that the drowning was supposed to be suicide. The truth, she says, is that the young man accidentally got in among some loose logs.

About 6 o'clock Tuesday morning the tug Admiral, while on her way up river, struck a rock with the result that a large hole was made in her bows, near the paddle box. She sank at her wharf, but it was hoped that she could be taken to Hilyard's blocks Tuesday for repairs.

In equity court chambers Tuesday, in the partition suit of Masterton et al vs. Morton et al, Mr. Justice Barker made an order for the sale of land situate in Kent county and for distribution of the proceeds among the proper parties. Stockton & Price appeared in support of the application.

Rev. Dr. Amzi C. Dixon, of the Ruggles street Baptist church, Boston, has been invited to assume charge of the Moody church in Chicago, and will accept. Rev. Dr. Dixon was heard in the Germain street Baptist church here a year ago last winter. He is a pleasing and eloquent speaker.

John F. Frost, of Hampton (N. B.), has been appointed superintendent of stockyards at the St. John Exhibition which will open Sept. 1. Mr. Frost is a thoroughly competent handler of live stock and this will be the third St. John exhibition at which he has acted as superintendent of live stock.

To a Telegraph reporter, Hon. C. H. LaBillois, who was in the city Thursday, said that tenders for the superstructure of the Hawkshaw bridge, over the St. John river, have been called for. This construction will accommodate a large section of the country. It is expected that the cost will be in the vicinity of $70,000.

At a meeting of the Sheet Metal Workers, Union No. 1, held Tuesday night J. C. Brown was appointed a delegate to attend the National Trades & Labor Congress, which will meet in this city on Sept. 12. The president, J. A. Winchester; vice-president, J. O'Brien, and secretary, S. Winchester, were appointed a reception committee in connection with the same event.

Seaside Park seems to be the chief watering place in New Brunswick. The crowds which flock there through the day and the evening appear larger every week, and the street cars at each trip are densely crowded. Last night there was a general migration out the avenue and over the bridge. The park was the destination of all, for there, these piping dog days, the breeze is salt and cool.

Andrew Gotro, of Memramcook, met with a painful accident a few days ago while quarrying stone at Hopewell Cape for the new bridge that is being built there. A large stone weighing three or four tons fell upon Mr. Gotro's foot and leg, crushing it so badly that it had to be amputated below the knee. The operation was performed by Dr. Marven, of Hillsboro, assisted by Drs. Randall and Lewis. Mr. Gotro is progressing favorably and hopes are entertained for his receovery.

Frederick Smith, chief mate of the Battle line steamer Eretria, is in the hospital suffering from an injury to his right side. On the voyage to St. John from Barrow-on-Furness, Mr. Smith fell down the hold, a distance of twenty-four feet. Captain Mulcahy attended the injured man as well as he could, and on the arrival of the steamer in the stream Tuesday he was put on a tug and taken to the hospital. His condition is not looked on as serious, and he was resting easily Tuesday night.

The obstruction which has prevented the moving of No. 3 crib in Sand Point slip was located Thursday, and proved to be a timber about 14 feet long firmly embedded in the mud. The upper end had projected into the crib and rendered it immovable. A diver was sent down and found the timber situated about 75 feet along the rear face of the crib. It was removed by the steam scow and it is expected that the work of moving the crib 70 feet nearer Union street will be completed today.

The Knights of Pythias of St. John will observe their annual memorial day on Thursday, Aug. 16, one week from today. The knights will be pleased to receive donations of flowers from their friends on Wednesday, the 15th, and the morning of Thursday, 16th, in the Queen's rink. As there are a number of new graves to be decorated this year, it is desired that all the flowers that can be spared, will be sent in. Parcels sent from out of town will be called for at the baggage room.

Hiram Webb and his son Stanley returned home Tuesday from Edmonton, Alberta. Mr. Webb, who is well-known here as an electrician, left about two weeks ago for the west where he expected to locate. He found, however, that there was little opportunity for him to do business out there. In Edmonton there are two rival electric concerns, who are warring against each other and they are doing the work at rock bottom prices. In Winnipeg conditions are little better, and in fact all over the west it was the same way so Mr. Webb thought St. John was pretty nearly good enough after all. He will probably resume business here. Ellsworth Webb, who also accompanied his father, has gone to Houlton, Me., where he will probably locate.

WEDDINGS

Sheldrake-Flewelling.

A quite home wedding took place at the residence of the bride's parents, Kingston, Kings county, when Edna Louisa, only daughter of Joseph Flewelling, was united in marriage to William Sheldrake, of Wickham, Queens county. The ceremony was performed by Rev. H. S. Wainwright. Only the immediate relatives were present, owing to the recent death of the bride's sister. The bride was the recipient of many handsome and useful presents. The happy couple left via I. C. R. for St. John, where they will take the Crystal Stream for their future home at Wickham.

Robert-Harrington.

At 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon the marriage took place in St. Paul's church, Halifax (N.S.), of Miss Maude Harrington, eldest daughter of the late Mr. C. S. Harrington, K. C., and Lieut. A. H. Robert, A. S. C. His Lordship Bishop Worrall officiated, being assisted by Rev. R. W. H. Troop, curate of St. Paul's. Miss Harrington, who was given away by her eldest brother, Gordon Harrington, was attended by her sister, Miss Agnes Harrington, as bridesmaid. She had also a little flower girl in the person of Miss Marion MacDonald. Mr. and Mrs. Robert left immediately after the ceremony for a trip through the Annapolis Valley.

The ceremony was made a military wedding and the decorations of the church were exclusively of red, white and blue bunting and flags.

Wallace-MacNeil.

A pretty wedding took place at Antigonish Tuesday when Miss Ada, daughter of Hon. Daniel MacNeil, barrister of Inverness, was united in marriage to Thomas Wallace, jr., of the firm of F. Bezanson, jewellers, of Sydney. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss May MacNeil, of Sydney, and F. Lelacheur, of Sydney, supported the groom. After the ceremony, which was performed by Rev. Father McAdam, the happy couple repaired to the residence of D. C. MacDonald, an uncle of the bride, where they partook of a wedding breakfast. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace left on their honeymoon for St. John and other Canadian cities, after which they will reside in Sydney.

Fleming-Doherty.

A pretty wedding was celebrated in the Cathedral Wednesday morning at 6 o'clock when Rev. A. W. Meahan united in marriage Miss Margaret J. Doherty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Doherty, of Mill street, to T. F. Fleming, son of J. F. Fleming, of Halifax. The bride was given away by her father. Miss Katherine Fleming, sister of the groom, and John F. Doherty, brother of the bride, were the attendants. After the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Fleming drove to the residence of the bride's parents, Mill street, where breakfast was partaken of. After a trip to Halifax the newly married couple will reside at 12 Wall street. They received many pretty presents.

Robinson-Humphrey.

A quiet wedding took place Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Humphrey, 103 Gilbert's lane, when her daughter Georgia was united in marriage to Wm. H. Robinson. Rev. W. O. Raymond performed the ceremony, and the groom was supported by Harry B. Warwick, while Miss Mamie Robinson, sister of the groom, acted as bridesmaid. They will reside at 103 Gilbert's lane.

Irvine-Busby.

A very pretty wedding took place Wednesday night at 8 o'clock, at 40 Leinster St., when Mrs. Emma Busby was united in marriage to Samuel C. Irvine by Rev Canon Richardson.

The bride was attended by her daughter, Miss Gertrude, and Miss M. Irvine, and looked charming in a dress of black silk. The groom was attended by Robert J. Ross.

The ceremony over, a very delightful wedding repast was served. Speeches were made by Rev. Canon Richardson and the bridegroom.

After dinner, the friends of the happy couple spent a very pleasant evening with music and song, at the close of which the heartiest congratulations were extended to the newly married couple by all present.

Mr. Ross contributed greatly to the success of the occasion with a number of well rendered songs.

Mr. and Mrs. Irvine will reside at 40 Leinster street.

The announcement that the provincial government was planning to put in operation a requirement that all accident and fire insurance companies having no deposits at Ottawa should make a deposit at Fredericton, was read with interest in Thursday morning's Telegraph by local insurance men. A leading insurance representative, when asked about the matter, said it was a good thing for the protection of the public and that it would affect several companies now doing business here. They were, he said, mostly Canadian companies. The matter had been talked of before, and he was glad to see that the government now proposed to put it into effect.

Commissioner Coombs left at noon Thursday for Halifax, accompanied by his wife and daughters. He expressed himself as delighted with his stay in New Brunswick and as feeling much improved in health. He will return to the Maritime Provinces in October. He said before he went that several changes in the Headquarters Staff here would be announced in a few days and that Col. J. D. Sharp may be transferred to another field. Col. Lamb, one of the chief of the army's emigration officers in London, will visit the Maritime Provinces this fall to look into the chances for settlement offered Englishmen here.

OBITUARY.

Mrs. Gilbert Davidson.

Mrs. Sarah Davidson, widow of the late Gilbert Davidson, died at her home, 130 Orange St. Tuesday morning. The deceased was out on Sunday last and her death was unexpected.

Four daughters and three sons survive. One of the sons, John H., is in the employ of O. H. Warwick, as bookkeeper, and Gilbert D. is a teacher of music. Of the daughters, Miss Ida is employed in the telephone exchange.

The Late David Gibson.

Woodstock, N. B., Aug. 7—(Special)—The funeral of David Gibson at 3 o'clock this afternoon was largely attended, and interment was made in the Presbyterian cemetery in Greenbank. A large number o. relatives and friends drove down from here.

John Malcolm.

John Malcolm, one of the I. C. R.'s oldest employes, died in Moncton Wednesday after an illness of three months with stomach trouble. He was seventy years of age, and a native of Restigouche county. He was held in the highest respect. His wife and several sons survive. Mr. Malcolm was engaged in the I. C. R. stores department.

James Reed.

The death of James Reed, aged 77 years, one of the oldest and best known lumber surveyors of that section of the province, occurred Tuesday at his home in Musquash.

Years ago Mr. Reed surveyed for C. F. Clinch, and later for J. & L. B. Knight, and still later for the Inglewood Pulp and Paper Co.

Mr. Reed was a native of Ireland, but came to St. John when a boy, and had spent practically all of his life at Musquash.

He leaves a widow, four daughters and three sons. One daughter is Mrs. R. S. Bonnell, and another Mrs. George Spinney, both living at Musquash. The other five children live at home with their mother. Mr. Reed had very many friends, who will regret to hear of his death.

M. P. Richardson.

M. P. Richardson, clerk of the round house Truro (N. S.), died there Wednesday after three months' illness, the result of paralysis. He was aged sixty-six years.

Mrs. Elizabeth Lyons.

Mrs. Elizabeth Lyons, widow of William Lyons, died in the Home for Incurables Tuesday, aged forty years. Mrs. Lyons entered the home about seven weeks ago with a malignant disease. She was a daughter of John Beers, of Marsh road, and is survived by her father, mother and two brothers.

Mrs. Margaret A. Lawrence

Mrs. Margaret A. Lawrence died Wednesday at Hampton, aged twenty-eight years. For some time she had been in failing health, but for the past month had been quite ill. She was a daughter of William Bovaird, of Hampton, and besides her husband and one son she is survived by her father and three sisters—Mrs. Theodore Purdy, of Hampton; Miss Mamie Bovaird, of Providence (R. I.), and Miss Bessie, of Boston. Her husband is in the employ of the Flewwelling match factory at Hampton.

John W. Stewart.

John W. Stewart, formerly of this city, died at his home in Saskatoon, June 27, of appendicitis, aged fifty-seven years. He left here twenty-three years ago and is survived by his wife, formerly Miss McDermott, of St. John, and four children. His daughter and one of his sons are married in Saskatoon. The deceased was a nephew of the late Luke Stewart, of this city. Relatives of the deceased's wife are still resident here.

WESTERN GROWTH

More Census Returns for the Three Provinces.

Ottawa, Aug. 9—(Special)—Further census returns for the three western provinces were issued today. Sixteen towns in Manitoba give an aggregate population of 124,947, or a gain of 60,029 in five years. In Saskatchewan thirteen places furnish an aggregate of 22,142, an increase of 15,202 since 1901. A similar number of towns in Alberta show a population of 37,025, a gain of 23,310.

The town of Moosejaw, in Saskatchewan, has a population of 6,250, or 33 more than Regina, the capital.

$12,000 Wharf and Lumber Fire.

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 9—A loss of $12,000 was caused by a fire which burned part of a wharf belonging to the Boston & Maine Railroad, and 2,000,000 shingles and other lumber in the lumber yard of Thomas Call tonight. The loss on the lumber yard property was $10,000, and will be total. The origin of the fire is not known.

Wife of Charles Emory Smith Dead.

Philadelphia, Aug. 9—Word was received here tonight that Mrs. Ella Smith, wife of former Postmaster General Charles Emory Smith, is dead at Block Island (R. I.) She had been ill but a short time.

Block Island, R. I. Aug. 9—Mrs. Smith had been a guest at a hotel here for six weeks. Two weeks ago she was taken ill, and on account of the seriousness of her condition, Mr. Smith came to Block Island about a week ago and has since remained here.

Threw His Child from Window.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 8—Thomas McKenna, a hotel waiter, after throwing his three year old child from a third story window of his home today jumped out too. Both are dead. He was believed to have gone suddenly insane.

Minister of Customs at Old Orchard.

Ottawa, Aug. 9—(Special)—Hon. William Patterson came to Ottawa on a flying visit yesterday and left for Old Orchard Beach this afternoon.

A new pest is said to be making its appearance in northern Kansas. It is a parasitic plant called dodder. It is yellowish in color. It springs up from the ground and reaches out its tendrils and fastens onto its neighbors. Then it dies at the root and lives exclusively off the plant to which it has attached itself. There is fear expressed that it will destroy the alfalfa fields.

Willard McIntyre, son of Rev. W. E. McIntyre, while jumping over a fence at Riverside on Wednesday, fell and dislocated his shoulder. Dr. McInerney was summoned from Renforth and rendered the necessary assistance.

CENTRAL'S REPLY TO HON. MR. BLAIR

T. H. Estabrooks Makes Interesting Statement About Telephone Affairs, Contradicting Some of Rival Company's Assertions.

T. H. Estabrooks, president of the Central Telephone Company, gave out the following statement on telephone matters last evening:

"Owing to my absence from the city I have not had an opportunity to reply sooner to an interview with Hon. A. G. Blair, president of the New Brunswick Telephone Company, which appeared in Wednesday's issue.

"An effort has been made to create the impression that overtures looking toward a merger of the two companies had come from the Central Company, which is directly contrary to the facts, which are that I have several times been approached by men very closely identified with the New Brunswick Company, but it would be a breach of confidence to make known their proposals.

"Suffice it to say that our idea of the value of the New Brunswick Telephone Company property is very different from theirs, and a merger is not desired or sought for by the Central Company.

"Mr. Blair states that persons have been 'solicited to subscribe for the stock of another telephone company and have been positively assured that the New Brunswick Company would be forced to agree to a merger.' To this statement I wish to enter a most positive denial. The management of the Central Company have not made or authorized to be made any such statements—and I have yet to learn of any one of our four hundred and over stockholders being dissatisfied with their investment.

"Mr. Blair attempts to explain this action in cutting off from the rest of the province the people of Chatham, Richibucto, Sackville and other points who were temporarily at the mercy of his company. His admission that it was done to show the authority and power of the New Brunswick Company is in keeping with the spirit that has actuated that company since they were first granted a monopoly (which has fortunately expired). They have for years denied the people of this province the telephone service they were entitled to. Imagine towns like Campbellton, Bathurst and Chatham never having had any telephone communication between each other until connected by the Central Company's trunk lines a few days ago.

"Mr. Blair talks about assurances having been made to the New Brunswick Company at the time an agreement was entered into. Let me say in reply to this that their managing director stated to me in the most positive terms that they would not develop and did not want the rural and small town business, and as evidence of this they sold to the Central Company their exchange of forty-three 'phones in Sussex, where there are now 125 or more.

"Our relations with the New Brunswick Company continued friendly until they tried to get permission from the town of Campbellton to put in an exchange in opposition to ours, and informed us not only that they were going to parallel our lines on the eastern side of the province, but that they were going to enter into active competition for the rural or farmers' line business. We then decided to meet them aggressively, and Moncton being a very important point, made arrangements to put an exchange in there. The I. C. R. using a large number of 'phones was of course a very important connection and by making an offer much in favor of the railway department, we secured the contract.

"The pull referred to by Mr. Blair will be found in the document covering the offer, which was one that the railway department could not have jutified refusing.

"To give the public some idea of the extent of the work accomplished by the Central Company in a little over a year, let me state that we have acquired and constructed over 1,000 miles of pole line, operate seventeen exchanges, have over 2,000 'phones installed and in course of installation, and these all in towns and country districts.

"A few words in reference to the recent drastic order of the New Brunswick Company in re cutting connections. They have already published the fact that between Newcastle and Chatham they were bound by contract to keep the connection and try to put on their assistant manager the onus of breaking this contract. Be this as it may their desire for re-connection comes too late, as we have already installed an exchange in Newcastle, and our subscribers now have connections over our own lines."

JAMES V. BROWN WAS NOT DROWNED

St. John County Man Who Can Read His Own Death Notice.

A report was published yesterday that James V. Brown, of Fairfield, near St. Martins, was drowned. The story was without foundation according to word received from St. Martins last night.

Mr. Brown, who is well to do and well known, is middle aged, and married, and the news that reached here yesterday was startling. Dr. Gilmour, of St. Martins, drove to Fairfield, and returned with the information that the rumor of Mr. Brown's death was incorrect.

Maritime Board of Trade.

The Amherst Board of Trade are busily engaged in preparing an interesting programme for the members of the Maritime Board of Trade, which will convene there on Wednesday, the 15th inst.

W. S. Fisher, who passed through there one day last week, says they are looking for a big delegation of St. John business men. It will be an excellent opportunity for citizens to see what the people of one town have done for themselves, and the board hope that everyone who possibly can will endeavor to join the delegation. In addition to seeing the industries of Amherst, which are progressing so rapidly, it will afford an excellent opportunity for the business men of the maritime provinces to get together and discuss the various problems that confront them, and to take counsel together with a view to co-operation along lines that will make for the upbuilding of the east.

EDGEHILL STUDENTS WIN MUSICAL HONORS

Result of June Examinations Has Been Received from London, Eng.

The results of the June local examination of the students of Edgehill School, Windsor (N.S.), in musical knowledge has been received from Trinity College of Music, London (Eng.). The order of marks is as follows:

Intermediate Division.

	Number of Marks. Maxium No. 100.	
1. Helen M. Bankier	88	Honors
2. Rhoda W. Gordon Forbes	87	"
3. Hildred MacKinlay	87	"
4. Louise W. Knight	83	"
5. Margaret L. Neales	82	"
6. Emily G. Almon-Hensley	82	"
7. Marian P. Hensley	76	Pass
8. Elizabeth Davies	72	"

Junior Division.

1. Bertha A. Gardner	97	Honors
2. Annie Dwyer	96	"
3. Jessie Dale Harris	95	"
4. Lois Theresa Cahan	93	"
5. Margaret Troyte Bullock	93	"
6. Elizabeth Killam	92	"
7. Muriel Kupkey	91	"
8. Dorothea Rangeley Hensley	91	"
9. Una Bentley Thomson	90	"
10. Frances Dora Brown	90	"
11. Gladys Moes	88	"
12. Ida Matilda Leslie	86	"
13. Jessie Muriel Goggin	83	"
14. Jean F. Cochrane Byers	83	"
15. Annabella F. Carver	72	Pass

Hampton Notes.

Hampton, Kings Co., Aug. 9—Mr. J. M. Scovil had to have his fine driving mare shot last evening as the result of a broken leg, caused by a kick from a heavy farm horse standing in an adjoining stall of the stable. It was at first hoped that the animal's life might be saved by placing her in a sling and putting the leg into a plaster cast, but Dr. Manchester, who was summoned from Sussex, gave his opinion that the case was hopeless. The accident caused a great deal of interest, for the animal was greatly admired, and much regret was expressed at the loss sustained by Mr. Scovil.

A successful garden party and 5 o'clock tea to be followed by a concert by the Hampton Cornet Band, is being held on the grounds of Mr. George M. Ryan, on Main street, Hampton Station, this afternoon and evening, under the auspices of the ladies of the Anglican church here, and the active operations of Miss Annie Cochrane and Mrs. Clarence Spooner as the leading members of committee. The purpose for which this entertainment has been prepared is to provide the necessary funds to install a Victoria acetylene gas plant for lighting the Chapel of the Messiah, at Hampton Station. Mr. Ryan heartily responded to the request of the committee for the use of the beautiful grounds in which his residence stands, and the presence of the new rector, Rev. Mr. Whalley, and his family, as well as of Mrs. J. R. DeWolfe Cowie, wife of the last rector, makes the occasion of additional interest.

In the Probate court of Kings county, Judge J. M. McIntyre has, on the petition of Mrs. Elizabeth Oatis, widow, of Sussex, granted to her letters of administration on the estate of her husband, the late Charles Oatis, of Sussex, farmer, deceased, valued at $550 real, and $600 personal property. The petitioner, together with Messrs. John Jamieson, and Hamilton B. Price were accepted as bondsmen; Messrs. Fowler, Jonah and Parlee, proctors.

On the petition of Hazen Folkins, of Sussex, clerk, letters of administration were granted to him on the estate of his wife, May Folkins, deceased, the value of which is $600 personal property. The petitioner, with Messrs. Geo. W. Fowler and Wilfred B. Jonah were accepted as bondsmen. Messrs. Fowler, Jonah and Parlee, proctors.

Sunday School Convention at Welsford.

The annual convention for Sunday school workers for Queens county, met at Welsford Wednesday evening, in the Methodist church. There was a good attendance and addresses on the work were delivered by Rev. J. B. Ganong, field-secretary, and J. N. Harvey, of St. John.

The president, I. E. Vanwart, gave a review of the work during the year. The report of the county secretary, E. Vallis, showed an increase over the previous year in the amounts raised for the association, the average attendance and number joining the churches from the schools.

Interesting reports were also received from Miss Maude Charlton, parish secretary; Miss Mabel Woods, primary president.

The officers for next year are: Pres. I. E. Vanwart, Hampstead; vice-president, Robert Anderson, Armstrong's Corner; secretary, E. Vallis, Inchby.

PROBATE COURT.

CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

To the Sheriff of the City and County of St. John, or any Constable of the said City and County—GREETING:

Whereas, Alexander W. MacRae, administrator of all and singular the goods, chattels and credits of the late Florence Belyea, deceased, who died intestate, has prayed that a license may be granted to him to sell the real estate of the said Florence Belyea, deceased, to pay the debts of the said deceased.

YOU ARE THEREFORE REQUIRED TO CITE Alexander Uriah Belyea, resident in Shanghai, in the Empire of China, Frank Ernest Belyea, resident in Saint Stephen, in the County of Charlotte and Province of New Brunswick, and Frederick Belyea, resident in the City of Saint John, in the County of Saint John, and Province of New Brunswick; Annie Amelia Morgan, wife of Walter Morgan of the City of Saint John and Province of New Brunswick; Louisa Napier, wife of Harry Napier of Norfolk, in the State of New York, and Bernice Harned, wife of Clifford Harned of Blue Bonnets in the Province of Quebec, and all others interested to appear before me at a Court of Probate to be held in and for the City and County of Saint John, at the Probate Court Room in the Pugsley Building in the City of Saint John, on Monday the 22nd day of October next at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to show cause, if any, why such license should not be granted.

(L. S.) Given under my hand and seal of the said Probate Court, this fifth day of July A. D. 1906.

(Sgd.) CHARLES J. MILLIGAN,
Registrar of Probate.

(Sgd.) ARTHUR I. TRUEMAN,
Judge of Probate.

Proctor—JOHN A. SINCLAIR.

The Best Time

To obtain good positions is in the early Spring. The best time to begin to qualify for these positions is now.

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