

PROGRESS.

VOL. X., NO. 514.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1898.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

LOOKING AT THE VOTES.

THE REGARD OF MANY ALDERMEN FOR THE ELECTORS.

Leads to Certain Ends at the Council Board—Alderman Christie's First-test—The Appeals Committee and the new Power Granted to Them.

Thursday afternoon saw the last big business meeting of the board of aldermen before the civic elections. There may be other meetings—special and otherwise, but the reports of the year from the several departments are in and the estimates were presented.

Mayor Robertson was not there. He was in Montreal trying to see what he could do with the C. P. R. magnates in regard to that agreement about the new wharves on the West side. This is not the first trip he has made in this connection and it is to be hoped that something will be arrived at this time.

Meantime, in his absence, Deputy Mayor Robinson held down the chair of the chief High Constable George Stockford was within one of being in charge of the city's affairs again for the recorder was away too, and only the presence of the deputy saved him from the honor and attendant responsibility.

There were other visitors, to say nothing of the sixteenth member of the board, who is never absent. They were Mr. Dunlavy, representing the Furness line and Capt Fleming who was watching the interests of the Manhattan S. S. company, a new line being promoted by Mr. Newcombe of whom the council and the citizens have heard before. The new company wanted a suitable berth and, incidentally, offered to pay the charges in advance and to give such security as the city requires. No doubt they will get what will suit them even if it isn't quite what they want. There seems to be an impression in the council—at least some of the members have it—that the Dominion Atlantic S. S. company will want a berth near the old Bay of Fundy wharf since the Intercolonial railway is talking about the Long wharf and the property in that vicinity. At any rate all the aldermen were not anxious to settle the matter off hand and the chances are that Monday afternoon will see a special meeting of the board to consider the matter. Somebody wanted it referred to the Board of works which includes all the aldermen except the representatives at large which suggestion moved Ald at large Purdy to remark that the aldermen at large did not seem to count.

Alderman Christie is a persistent man and especially so in the interests of his friends. He has fathered the Cushing pulp mill project in the council and presented it with an influence that his colleagues do not appear to wish to antagonize. Perhaps the fact that the elections are so handy may have something to do with this feature of it. He is the chairman of the board of management as well as the board of works and as the former has control of the water and sewerage his "pull" cannot be disputed. He brought up the water supply for this pulp mill again and informed the council that Mr. Cushing had seen the board of management once more and wanted all the water he required for the manufacture of 20 tons of pulp per day of 24 hours. He did not propose to be tied down to 840,000 gallons a day or to take his contract from the city from year to year. He required that no limit should be placed upon the water supply and that he should have it for 25 years. This astounding proposition was recommended by the board of management and the council adopted their report and recommendations without much, if any dissent. Perhaps they were weary arguing the matter. But the alderman for Lansdowne was not weary and he promptly moved that the requisite notice be given to owners of land through which the new main would lie and that authority be given to issue one hundred and forty odd thousand dollars. And all the aldermen voted yea. "Pop goes the weasel!"

Mr. William Murdoch is an engineer in the employ of the city. He has charge of the water and sewerage system and gets \$1,800 a year for his services. According to a resolution passed by the tax reductionists when in power, he is supposed to give all his time for the city work. Perhaps he does, but, if so, he must think all his time is not enough for, he has intimated to the board of management that they must employ another engineer to overlook

the laying of the main from Spruce Lake to Carleton. Perhaps he meant that Mr. Hurd Peters could put in his spare time there as the building of wharves is about done. At any rate there was a sharp and not altogether pleasant or complimentary discussion of the matter when Chairman Christie communicated the fact to the council. Somebody pointed out that Mr. Murdoch had found time to oversee the construction of the power house at Silver Falls and still be at his regular work and they couldn't see what would prevent him from doing the same at Carleton. But nobody pointed out the fact or the reason

the appeal committee have power to act upon these appeals from taxes.

Alderman at large Purdy was not looking for votes and he began to protest in a vigorous fashion against such a precedent, but every argument he advanced was combatted, perhaps not in the best way, but still there were others who were bound that these men should have a vote on election. "Let them pay" said Mr. Purdy, "and if they have a just claim the city will refund the reduction." Alderman Macrae laughed at the idea of the city giving back anything. Alderman Christie insinuated that this was a vote catcher and

ASPIRANTS FOR MAYOR.

ALDERMAN J. W. DANIEL AND MR. EDWARD SEARS.

What Both of These Gentlemen Look Like—Both Have Been in Civic Politics and Both Have Represented Queen's Ward—A Word About Each.

PROGRESS presents on this page excellent portraits of two good looking men, who are looking for votes and a seat in the mayor's chair. The chair is not big enough for both of them and there is a clause in the charter somewhat providing against dual representation. So the electors of the city of St.

John on the 19th day of April next will be obliged from a sense of civic duty to choose one of these gentlemen to preside over the deliberations of the aldermen for the next year—sign bonds and do such other work as come within the duties of a chief magistrate.

MR. HANINGTON THOUGHT IT OVER

And the Clerk was not Suspended for Violation of Rules

Among the many stringent rules which hedge in the employees of the post office is one to the effect that no member of the staff of clerks shall leave the building during working hours without permission from the postmaster or the deputy postmaster. This rule is so well understood among the men that it very seldom happens there is a violation. Therefore when one of the clerks wanted a shave one day this week he applied for, and obtained a ten minutes leave of absence from acting deputy postmaster Ring. He went across the street to a barber shop, and had scarcely seated himself when the door opened and the scowling face of postmaster Hanington looked in, as if to see with his own eyes that one of his men had actually dared to cross the street without his august permission.

Mr. Ritchie—the erring clerk—had his shave and was back at his post within ten minutes from the time he left it. When noon hour came he did not go out with the others but remained to make up the moments he had lost.

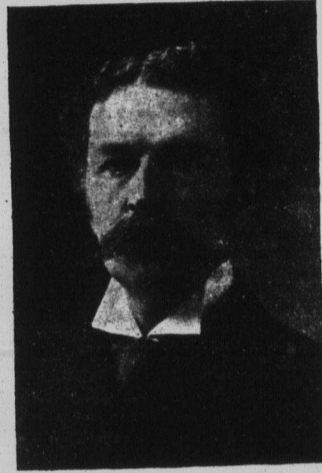
At the expiration of the time he emerged from his department with that self-satisfied feeling which comes from a consciousness of duties well done—and he had faithfully carried out the letter of the post office law; but he had reckoned without his boss, or rather without postmaster Hanington, in this case. This individual was laying in wait for the clerk in the hall, and his first words were a demand for an explanation of Mr. Ritchie's conduct. This the latter did not consider necessary, and none was forthcoming. A war of words followed and before it was ended Mr. Hanington, no doubt, wished he had tackled some one with a little less courage, for it is said he received some plain home talk, that he is not likely to forget soon. The upshot of it was that he threatened to suspend Mr. Ritchie, who was secure in the permission he had received from the deputy to go out, but of which Mr. Hanington did not know. "Suspend me," he said, "Oh I don't believe you will after all. You better think it over, you know, and let me know the result later on. If nothing but suspension will satisfy you, however, go ahead, though I really think you will regret it." And so on in a sarcastic vein which did not tend to mollify Mr. Hanington's anger. During the little interchange of courtesies, Mr. Ritchie volunteered the interesting information that if the clerks maintained the same espionage on the postmaster's actions that he did on theirs some strange surprises might be revealed—only Mr. Ritchie didn't put it quite that way. Whether postmaster Hanington has decided that discretion in this affair is the better part of valor, is not definitely known, but Mr. Ritchie still goes serenely about his duties and all talk of suspension has ceased.

Handsome Bank Premises.

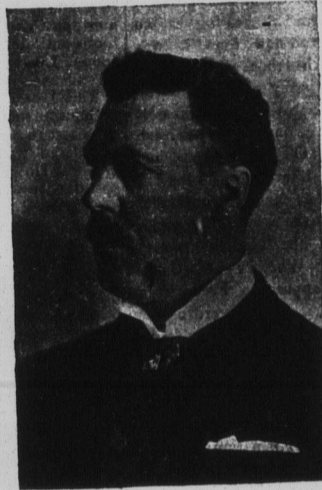
The changes made recently in the office of the Bank of Nova Scotia in this city are very attractive and much more convenient and pleasant for the staff. Under the management of Mr. T. B. Blair the business of the bank in this city has increased wonderfully—in fact to such an extent that additions have been made to the staff from time to time until the improvements which gave additional room were forced upon the management. Manager Blair is now to be found in front instead of, as formerly, in the rear room of the bank's premises. His office is splendidly finished, and so are the apartments of all the clerks. A Savings department has been added which will no doubt meet with much favor from the public.

The Barbers and the Law.

These barbers who were on the vigilance committee of the new association had a pleasant task before them last Sunday. But either they or the police made three or four reports on Sunday shaving and while Progress is being printed the police magistrate is trying two of them. The others pleaded guilty and surrendered \$25 each. But it is said that after their reports were made Sunday it was harder to get a shave than it was other prohibited articles.



J. W. DANIEL, M. D.



EDWARD SEARS.

why the power house at Silver Falls is not in operation. No doubt Alderman Waring as one of the foremen in Allan's Foundry Works in Carleton could have given the aldermen some information upon this point. But when the salaries and work of the engineers was under discussion one alderman thought it queer that no public work could be carried on in the city without employing an outside engineer. "And sometimes they are quite expensive" said Ald. Macrae. "If I am correct, the city paid Mr. McKenzie something like \$350 for two or three days work" and he smiled at Chairman Christie of the public works as he made the remark.

"More like \$573" growled Alderman Christie.

This referred to the flitting but joyful visit of Engineer McKenzie of the Intercolonial, whose services the city supposed were graciously loaned by the department of railways to inquire into the cause of that famous landslide—or rather wharf slide—at Sand Point. He came and went and months passed without the city hearing anything about it. The fact was they did not expect to hear any thing but they made a mistake in Mr. McKenzie. He is evidently a Scotchman and has all the shrewdness of the race. His bill came in not only for his own services but for those of his assistants and for all their expenses and the sum total was between five and six hundred dollars. Legal opinions are high as a rule but sometimes engineers' opinions are higher. The council was stumped by the account and began to inquire who was responsible. Minister A. G. Blair had no knowledge of the affair he said and nobody in the railway department had any. So "for the honor of the city," as the mayor put it the account was paid and Mr. Mackenzie's services are things of the past. No wonder however that the council is afraid of engineers in general and particular.

As usual there were some dozen appeals about taxes and here is where the hearts of the aldermen began to soften; for is it not a near election day and is it not an extra vote for every man who has his taxes paid? So two or three aldermen began to talk at once and explain that if these appeals laid over till the next meeting of the council these gentlemen who wanted relief would not have the pleasure of voting on election day and so one moved and two or three seconded the motion simultaneously that

this brought forth loud protests and smiles from the silent aldermen. Alderman Hamm was pathetic in his support of the motion and Dr. Daniel cited a sort of a comparison when bills were called in at the end of the year. But still Alderman Purdy hung out against this "dangerous precedent" and this time he had the support of Deputy Mayor Robinson. But in spite of this he was the only man who kept his seat when a question was called on the vote for even Dr. Christie after his opposition to the motion stood up in the yeal line. Perhaps he had the tear of Dr. Smith before his eyes.

Then the council adjourned.

HOW THEY ENJOY THEMSELVES.

The N. B. Visitors to Boston Got a Tip on Osteopathy.

Speaking about osteopathy, there was a very interesting little bit about this new science at Keith's theatre in Boston this week. A burnt cork comedian came out and in conversational style took his audience into his confidence about himself. He said he was a doctor down on milk street and he had the sand paper treatment. There were other ingredients but sandpaper was the chief ingredient. He also read some letters of recommendation which he had received. One boy was born with one leg and after using the sandpaper treatment for a while he got a leg fitted with a brogan shoe. He went to school and played football and was the best kicker in the school. There were some other startling things about this sandpaper treatment. The Lieutenant Governor, Premier Emmerson and others of the provincial legislature occupied boxes at the show and Messrs Emerson and Osman no doubt enjoyed the reference to the osteopathic or sandpaper treatment. They should have had the Milk Street doctor to cure the committee.

They All had a Great Time.

A few of the gentlemen who have returned from Boston and the Sportsman's Fair have some little else but talk of the good time they had, of the efforts made to entertain them and the success of the Boston boys in that regard. There are a good many New Brunswickers in Boston and they must have been waiting to give the visitors such a reception that they would not forget it on the journey back. And they didn't—some of them haven't forgotten it yet. Those who were fortunate enough to be there Friday were shown the city in K. H.'s van at the invitation of Mr. McGinnis.

John on the 19th day of April next will be obliged from a sense of civic duty to choose one of these gentlemen to preside over the deliberations of the aldermen for the next year—sign bonds and do such other work as come within the duties of a chief magistrate.

J. W. Daniel is an alderman of the city and represents Queens ward at present. He has been there for some years, off and on, and has made a diligent and careful member of the board. His associates in the council made him chairman of the treasury board, one of the most important offices in the council. It does not carry any remuneration in addition to the \$100 an alderman gets but it does mean a lot more work. No fault has been found with Dr. Daniel in the way he has fulfilled the duties of this position. His record as a citizen and as an alderman is excellent.

Mr. Edward Sears was one of the candidates for mayor last year and pulled a surprising vote. There were three others in the field, Mayor Robertson (who was re-elected), Mr. Charles MacLaughlin, and Mr. Thomas Hall. The fight was felt to be between Messrs Sears and Robertson and so it proved, but Mr. MacLaughlin had nearly 1000 votes and Mr. Hall two or three hundred. In spite of this Mr. Sears was only a few votes behind the present mayor. His friends count upon a far greater vote this year. Mr. Sears was in the council for years as a representative of Queen's ward and he was a critical alderman, devoting much of his time to civic affairs and doing all he could for the city.

The contest between these two gentlemen will be interesting and many predict a close one. Curiously enough both of them have represented Queens ward in the past. Now two ex-aldermen are striving for the same honor, Dr. W. W. White and James Seaton. Mr. Seaton has represented Victoria ward but with a business office in Queen's he has the same right to represent it as any resident.

"Uncle" Dan Hunter Heard From.

Mr. Connors of Black's Cove, Charlotte county, was in town a few days ago and in talking of many other things mentioned that there was a mineral spring near where he lived and he had heard that efforts were being made to form a company and erect a summer hotel at the spot. Mr. Connors described the spring, which appears to be genuine. He said it was owned by Dan Hunter and this information revived Progress's interest at once for