

FOUR

THE STAR, ST. JOHN N. B., WEDNESDAY, JULY 29 1908.

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ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JULY 29, 1908.

WORTHLESS REPORTS.

The Federal Government actuated by a desire to correct whatever weakness might exist in departmental administration, sometime ago appointed a civil service commission to investigate and make a report, the government agreeing to institute such improvements as were shown to be necessary. Every facility was granted the commissioners in securing information, and the government was subjected to a great deal of undeserved criticism as a result of statements contained in the final report. Since that time the government has been improving departments along the lines suggested, but with some exceptions. There was no promise to make changes unless such changes were really advisable, nor to act on the report unless the statements contained therein were supported by facts. The civil service commissioners devoted four and a half pages of their report to the militia department, and in this short space managed to make no less than fourteen incorrect statements. They stated that the headquarters staff numbers forty and later that it numbers fifty. Neither is correct. That the command, district and headquarters staffs combined number about two hundred and twenty. The correct figure is fifty-two. The commissioners were only one hundred and sixty-eight astray. They said that there had been an unnecessary increase in the permanent force over conditions existing in 1902, and they fixed the increase at 1,974. As a matter of fact, the net increase over 1902 conditions is 364, the remaining 1,610 being accounted for by the taking over of Halifax and Esquimaux garrisons. They said that the permanent and headquarters staffs had been greatly increased since 1902. This is incorrect. The increase in the headquarters staff since 1902 has been three. The increase in the district staff five. They said that the staff had been increased out of all proportion to the establishment. This is false. In 1902 the militia establishment was 24,430, and the staff numbered 32; the establishment now is 57,718, and the staff 62. The proportion of permanent officers is not now as great as it was in 1902. The commissioners offer the opinion that the number of permanent officers is sufficient to handle 100,000 men. This was intended as a criticism. It is a compliment to the department, which has endeavored to keep up with the militia were raised to war footing. The permanent organization has been strengthened with this in view. The commissioners charged extravagance, because of the fact that the expenditure of the department has increased \$2,000,000 in the past five years. They fail to take into account the cost of Halifax and Esquimaux which accounts for \$1,250,000, and do not pay any attention to the fact that the militia establishment has been almost doubled, this along with the improvements in equipment and organization, requiring \$1,000,000 more. Last year the department was charged with \$300,000 on customs account, a policy not previously pursued, and there has been an outlay of half a million more on ordnance. The commissioners declare there is a lack of sympathy between officers and men, there is every evidence to show that this is correct. They state that one out of three deserters from the permanent forces, but this is absolutely untrue, the proportion being one in nine for 1907. There are several other points in which the investigation went astray, but the above is sufficient to show that in at least one department the commissioners did not pay sufficient attention to their task.

It is very interesting to learn from Ald. McGoldrick that the money voted for street repair and maintenance has already been spent. There is so far practically no result. After all, it probably would have been the wiser plan to have given ex-director Cushing the salary increase for which he asked.

There is only one comment on the list of St. John's richest taxpayers. A great many men will now feel glad that they do not live in the same style as the extremely modest incomes admitted by some of those whose names appear on the list.

Oddly enough, a man's credit does not seem to suffer by the public revelation of his poverty, as given in the assessment list.

The board of works is confident that it can appoint its own officers without any advice from the board of trade. Why not make the attempt and let the public see what ground there is for this confidence?

The Courtenay Bay borings are to be commenced at once. Irrespective of whatever development is anticipated, the information which will be thus acquired will be of considerable value to St. John.

The Prince of Wales has said farewell after his sixth visit to Canada. Come again, there's luck in odd numbers. And bring your wife along.

NOT LIKE THE OLD DAYS.

"Come on, fellows! Let's go swimming!" How the oldtime cry Echoes in the recollection. Spite the years that fly! How the summer breeze invites us! How the whispering branch delights us!

Through the window all creation Seems to breathe that invitation Of the days gone by.

"Come on, fellows! Let's go swimming!" Those were play days rare Naught of pleasure that awaits us Now with them compare. All this poor perfunctory splashing! All these modes so trimly dashing! Please alone as they remind us: Of the happy days we left behind us; Happy days—back there!

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"They tell me you're workin' hard night and day since you were up before the magistrate for pushin' your husband about, Mrs. Robinson."

"Yes, the magistrate said if I came before him again he'd fine me forty shillings."

"And so you're workin' hard to keep out of mischief?"

"What? I'm workin' hard to save up the fine."

"You're looking very gloomy today, Tomkins. What's the matter?"

"Matter? Do you know Miss Pearce, the old maid that lives over the way? Dawkins told me that she was engaged to him, so just for the fun of the thing I went and proposed to her, and she accepted me; and now I'm looking for Dawkins."

TAKE A CHANCE.

"Could you give a starving woman work?"

"Yes, but I must tell you that we have five children."

"Thanks, I'll keep on starving."

JUSTICE.

A lawyer once asked a man who had at various times sat on several juries, "Who influenced you most—the lawyers, the witnesses, or the judge?" He expected to get some useful and interesting information from so inexperienced a jurymen. This was the man's reply: "I'll tell you, sir, 'ow I makes up my mind. I'm a plain man and a reasonable one, and I ain't influenced by anything the lawyers say, nor by what the witnesses say, nor by what the judge says. I just think of the man in the dock and says, 'If he aint doing nothing, why's he there?' and I brings 'em in guilty."

BUSH POLITICIAN.

You ask me why I'm agin marriage, an' I'll tell yer, feller men. I'm agin marriage 'cause of the evil an' misery what it leads to. If it wasn't for marriage there wouldn't be any wife-beatin' let me tell you!

Cholly—It's wonderful, Jove! Riding without harness, telegraphing without wires, and all these things. Maude—Yes, and thinking without brains.

Katie—They say Lizzie Whelan met and became engaged to her husband at the masked ball last month. Maggie—Then it must have occurred before either of them was masked.

THOUSANDS DROWNED.

Floods Cause Tremendous Havoc in China.

Appalling Loss of Life and Property—Death Roll Said to Number Three Thousand.

VICTORIA, B.C., July 28.—From Hong Kong news has been received of tremendous loss of life by recent inundations. Over three thousand rendered homeless. Many survivors are starving, and river steamers are being sunk with food supplies for relief expeditions. An official report says hundreds of thousands are in the hills, where they are threatened with starvation. Several villages were entirely annihilated when the West River overflowed.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

It is announced as a victory for Belgian women that in future they will be allowed to testify in civil suits. What sort of antiquated legislation has Belgium had hitherto?

A nurse at the polls to take care of the babies while the mothers voted was a novel feature of a recent election at Bellevue, Idaho. The election was close, the issue exciting, and every effort was made to bring out the voters, both men and women. All possible facilities were provided for the ladies, not only outcarts to bring them to the voting place, but a nurse to look after the infants. The vexed question, "Who will take care of the baby?" is quickly solved where women have a vote.

Mrs. Julia Ward Howe received many congratulations on her 89th birthday just passed. The New England Woman's Club gave a reception in her honor with addresses by President Woolley of Mt. Holyoke College, and other distinguished persons. In her response Mrs. Howe said:

"When I remember the cold welcome given to all the great reforms—temperance, anti-slavery, women's suffrage, and higher education of women, etc.—and when I see how largely they have been accepted into the practical programme, I feel that life is miraculous. The world is now wide awake to things which 60 years ago saints and philosophers dreamed of, but never expected to see."

At the reception at Mrs. Howe's home, children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren were present. The author of the Battle Hymn now has five children, eleven grandchildren and five great grandchildren.—"A complicated and increasing offspring," as Col. Higginson once called them.

SUFFRAGE.

CONFERENCE TO CONSIDER STANDARD OIL CASE.

Will Review Recent Decision in Favor of Corporation and Will Plan Next Steps.

LENOX, Mass., July 28.—The conference which attorney general Chas. J. Bonaparte has arranged with officials of the department of justice for the consideration of plans for the next movement in the case of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana will begin tomorrow upon the arrival of Frank B. Kellogg, of Minnesota, and District Attorney Edward M. Sims, of Chicago, who reached here during the day. James H. Wilkerson, of Chicago, Mr. Sims' assistant, was also present at the conference.

According to Mr. Bonaparte no definite action was taken at this meeting nor was any conclusion reached. Mr. Bonaparte said that when Mr. Kellogg arrives the case against the Standard Oil Company of Indiana will be completely reviewed and the recent decision of the United States court of appeals at Chicago would be considered in all its bearings. What action will be taken, Mr. Bonaparte declined to predict.

Late this afternoon Mr. Bonaparte had a preliminary conference with Solicitor General H. M. Hoyt, of Washington, and District Attorney Edward M. Sims, of Chicago, who reached here during the day. James H. Wilkerson, of Chicago, Mr. Sims' assistant, was also present at the conference.

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FASHIONABLE WEDDING AT FREDERICTON TODAY.

Mr. Frank Shute and Miss Florence P. Whitehead United in Marriage This Afternoon.

FREDERICTON, July 28.—A wedding which has aroused a great deal of interest in social circles took place at Christ Church Cathedral at half past three o'clock this afternoon, when Miss Florence Perley Whitehead was united in marriage with Mr. Frank Shute, of the Royal Bank, formerly of Fredericton, but for the past eight years stationed in Cuba. The church was very prettily decorated for the occasion, and was filled with friends of the young couple. The ceremony was performed by Sub Dean E. F. Street assisted by Dean Charles D. Schofield.

Miss Whitehead, who was given away by her father, wore an empire gown of white duchess satin trimmed with Irish point lace and pearls, with the customary veil and orange blossoms, and carried a bouquet of white roses. Her travelling costume was of natural pique silk with brown hat.

The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Ellen A. Whitehead, who, as maid of honor, was gown in white embroidered net over tulle, with baby Irish lace and Valenciennes lace, and large white hat trimmed with moire and large plumes. The bridesmaids were Miss Bessie F. Armstrong, of St. John, and Miss Ruby F. Lindsay, of Pictou.

N. S. They wore charming empire gowns of pink paillette silk with baby Irish lace and flit net insertion. Their hats were of pink tulle, set with bands of pink velvet, and large plumes. The maid of honor carried a pale pink ostrich feather miff, and the bridesmaids pale pink sweet peas.

Mrs. Whitehead, mother of the bride, wore an English gown of white embroidered flit lace, and cream lace hat trimmed with sweet peas.

The groom was supported by Mr. Charles Allen, of Fredericton, and the ushers were Messrs. Guy B. Whitehead, E. Dibble, L. Sherman and George Howie. Prof. Leherwood Plummer presided at the organ.

After the ceremony the wedding party and guests drove to the home of the bride's parents on Church street, where luncheon was served. The house was elaborately decorated for the occasion, the floral effects being arranged by Mr. J. Babington. The collection of the \$500 p.m. train for Van couver, where they will reside. Among the out of town guests who were present at the wedding were: Messrs. Leora Harrison, Bertie N. Armstrong, Maude Golding, Lillian Jewelling, of St. John, and Mrs. F. P. Franchill, of Fredericton; Nelson, B. C., Dr. and Mrs. G. M. Campbell, St. John, Miss Mary Caverhill, of St. John, N. B., Miss F. Moore, St. Stephen, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Robinson, Moncton, the Misses Snowball, Chatham, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Jones, Woodstock, Mrs. A. E. Johnson, Sackville, Mr. A. Brown, Houlton, Me., and Mr. Earle Crocker, Newcastle, N. B.

To replace the thirty thousand dollar trotting stallion Todd, 214 3-4, that died last spring, William Bradley has just purchased from Arthur H. Parker, of Bedford, Mass., Todd's sire, Bingen, 206 1-4, to head his newly established breeding stud at Ardenmore, Hartland, N. J. The price was private, but it is known to have been the highest paid for a harness horse since William Simpson of Boston gave \$50,000 for McKirtney, 211 1-4, about four years ago.

Information of the cancelling of the exequators reached the state department today from Drew Linard, the American consul at Ceiba. He has been asked by the department to send by cable a full statement of the facts leading up to the action taken by President Davila. Future action of the department may depend upon his reply.

MURDERER DIED IN JAIL; HEART DISEASE THE CAUSE.

NEW YORK, July 28.—Dr. Andrew Bergen Cropley, the veterinary surgeon, who shot and killed his wife in her home in Bath Beach a week ago today, died suddenly in jail in Brooklyn today. Heart disease was the cause of his death.

Since his crime, for which he pleaded insanity, Dr. Cropley has been a physical wreck and for several days has been on the point of collapse. Dr. Cropley belonged to one of the oldest families in Kings County. For generations the Cropleys had been prominent in social and civic affairs. He was 40 years of age.

IN NINETEEN SOMETHING ELSE.

"The dead man found on the fifty-five story building is believed to have fallen from a neighboring roof. He was terribly crushed."

The world consumes 17,000,000 quarts of beer annually. Two hundred different species of fish have been noted in the Nile and its tributaries.

In Russia it is the custom of pugilists to breakfast together before a contest.

Store open till 9 p. m. Wednesday, July 29, 1908.

SHOES YOUR FORGET

We have just opened during the past week two extra nice lines of Men's Patent Calf Blucher Balmorals.

THE GOLD BOND SHOE QUALITY

A gentleman, with a very tender foot, was trying a pair on yesterday afternoon and he made this remark: "I forget they are new ones." This Patent Leather will not annoy the most tender foot.

SEE OUR CHANCELLOR SHAPE. The thing for fashionable dressers. PRICES, \$5.00 PER PAIR.

PERCY J. STEEL, FOOT FURNISHER.

SUCCESSOR TO WM. YOUNG. 519-521 Main St.

FERGUSON & PAGE.

Jewelry, Etc. 41 King St.

Bargain Days in Men's Fine Footwear.

We are clearing out six different styles in

K ngarod and Vici Kid Laced Boots

All new lasts and shapes. \$4 AND \$5 BOOTS SELLING AT

\$3.00 per pair

Every size in the lot.

Open Evenings until 8. All day Saturdays until 11 p. m.

Francis & Vaughan

19 KING STREET.

CLOVER FARM DAIRY

Fresh Dairy Products, Fruit, Candies, Ice Cream, at Branch Store, 573 Main Street. Main Store, 124 Queen Street. Phone Main 304.

H. M. FLOYD, Manager

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Place your Want Ads in The STAR. One cent a day for each word.

Dr. John G. Leonard.

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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 123.

EAT CRITZ

and look happy and healthy

BIRTHS.

GIBSON—At St. John July 28th, to Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Gibson a son.

MORGAN—In St. John, 287 Westworth street, July 28th, to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Morgan, a son.

MARRIAGES.

ROMNEY-ANDERSON.—On Tuesday, July 28th, by the Rev. H. D. Marr, at the summer residence of the bride's father, R. G. Magee, Nauwigewauk, N. B., Lottie Anderson to Robert James Myles Romney, son of Robert Romney, Esq., Director of the Sierra Tintore S. S. Co. of Liverpool, England.

DEATHS.

DUNCAN.—Miss Elizabeth A., at her home, 40 Forest street, on July 27th, in her 56th year, survived by four sisters and two brothers.

LORD.—At the residence of his father, 82 Water street, W. E. Walter, infant son of Jacob and Frances Lord, aged 2 months, 1 day.

VERY SHARP.

Teacher—Now, Johnny, if the earth were empty on the inside, what could we compare it to? Johnny—A razor, ma'am. Teacher—A razor? Johnny—Yes, ma'am; because it would be hollow ground.

Phone 1802-41