

THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 22.

The St. John Evening Times is published at 77 and 79 Canterbury Street, every evening, (Sundays excepted), by the St. John Times Printing & Publishing Co., Ltd., a company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act. M. BELDING, Editor.

THE WATERWORKS.

The water and sewerage board, with only three dissenting voices, decided yesterday in favor of paying McArthur & McVey \$15,000 additional if they complete section 2 of their contract by Oct. 31st, and make no claim for extra on either section unless for new work hereafter ordered by the city's engineer.

A statement of the case as it was set forth by the speakers yesterday will be helpful in forming judgment relative to this matter.

McArthur & McVey's tender for section 2 was some seven thousand dollars lower than that of an American firm. But the American firm would not accept that section alone, if offered them, and therefore it was granted to McArthur & McVey it would have to go to Messrs. McConery, whose tender was over \$18,000 higher.

The city's engineer declared to the board before the tender of McArthur & McVey was accepted that the work could not be done for the money, but they felt that the taxpayers would denounce them if they gave the contract at a higher figure to a foreign concern, even if the latter had been willing to accept it, or to Messrs. McConery at an advance of over \$18,000. They felt they had no choice, therefore, but to close with McArthur & McVey.

It transpired that the engineer was right, and that McArthur & McVey's tender was too low. They have been losing money on the work, and finally announced that unless a new arrangement were made they must throw up the job. This created an entirely new situation.

The city's engineer repeated what he had said before, and suggested that the best way out of the difficulty would be for the city to engage McArthur & McVey to finish the work, the city paying the bills, and granting them a bonus of \$10,000 if the work was completed by the end of October. But the board felt that if the firm could not complete the work for themselves, they would not do any better for the city on these terms.

There was, of course, the alternative of ordering the firm to finish the contract, and, in the event of their refusal, falling back on the bondsmen. But the bondsmen could only be compelled to give up \$15,000, and the city would still have the job on its hands.

It was suggested that the city might engage Engineer Hunter and complete the work itself, but the engineer's estimate of what it would cost offered no comfort in that direction.

As a result of careful consideration of the whole question the sub-committee which reported yesterday decided that the plan they recommended, and which has been adopted, was the best solution of the difficulty. They agreed that it was not a wise principle to give a contract and then offer a bonus. Ald. Frink opposed the proposition partially on the ground, and partially on the ground that the city, he believed, could do the work itself within the time specified. The others held that if McArthur & McVey throw up the work the city would lose valuable time getting plant and men, and there would be a great deal of trouble over the question of patronage, and the work would not be completed.

Among the reasons for the most rapid completion possible was the promised reduction in fire insurance, which for a period of six months or more would be an important consideration, in addition to the increased protection. Then the city actually needed the additional water supply, and if the work were not completed this year it would cost thousands of dollars to put it in shape to stand the winter, with the possibility of washouts and other serious damage.

The committee, therefore, Ald. Frink dissenting, reported the resolution in favor of the plan that has been adopted, with the understanding that this is final, that no extra will be considered unless for new work ordered by the city, and that not a dollar of the \$15,000 will be paid until the work is completed, and not at all unless it is completed on Oct. 31st.

Ald. Pickett refused to vote in favor of the resolution unless a report were submitted showing the grounds on which the committee arrived at its conclusion, but the others contended that the engineer's report covered the case, and that all the aldermen were or should now be in possession of the facts. Ald. Bullock was not satisfied that the extra cost would be \$15,000, but neither he nor Ald. Pickett offered any alternative scheme.

The board is concerned for getting into this difficulty. In reply it points out that it called for tenders in the usual way and accepted the lowest tender—that it could not justify itself either in accepting a higher tender, or in paying to McArthur & McVey: "You do not ask enough—we will give you \$10,000 or \$15,000 more." They made the best arrangement possible, in the belief that the firm had made careful estimates, and might be able, despite the engineer's opinion, to do the work for the money. It turned out that the firm made a mistake. Not a single person here, now that the work has been uncovered and its extent is known, that it can be done for anything like the contract price. What then? Should the city demand its pound of flesh and compel the firm to lose \$15,000? Would any citizen do it in his private business? The board's reply to these questions is that on moral grounds it should not do so, when the difference between the firm's tender and the actual cost is so great. As already stated, if the city took over the work the opinion of the majority of the board and its engineer appears to be that the cost would be greater, and the chances of getting it done this year would be smaller than at present; whereas, if the firm go ahead with

the work and do not finish it, the city will be that much further ahead and will not have to pay the \$15,000. This is a fair statement of the case as it was set forth yesterday by Mayor White, Ald. Christie, Baxter, Macrae and others. Ald. Frink opposed their action because he objected to the principle of a bonus, and would rather see the city take hold of the work and push it through, at whatever cost. Ald. Pickett and Bullock, who also voted in the negative, did not offer any alternative proposition. Other speakers expressed their perfect willingness to vote for any scheme that would give promise of bringing the water into the city this year at less cost than the one proposed. None much was offered, and the resolution was adopted.

In reply to the suggestion that this concession would lead to demands for others, the mayor and several aldermen declared positively that so far as they were concerned this was final, and it was a case of the contractors accepting this or nothing.

The matter has yet to be dealt with by the council.

ANOTHER CRITIC

A correspondent of the Sun, who does not sign his name to the communication, objects to the introduction of manual training in the public schools on the ground that it would increase the taxes. He figures it out that the cost of education in St. John is \$13 per head for each child, and that certain persons who do not pay nearly so much in taxes send their children to the schools. Take, for example, he says, the laboring man, who only pays \$7.25, of which \$2 is poll-tax. This poor man sends his child to school to be educated at a cost to the city of \$13 each, or \$78. Take also, he says, the editor of the Times, "who himself has four children attending the public schools, at an expense of \$52 per annum, and whose name does not appear on the list of citizens who pay \$50 or upwards a year in taxes; and who might not seem just the most suitable person to agitate for further expenditure."

The editor of this paper must plead guilty to the crime of not being a very large taxpayer, and must further confess that he owes to a free school system such educational advantages as he may himself have secured. But it is not quite correct to say that he has four children at school. There were four last year. Next year there will only be two. Moreover the editor paid taxes when he had no children at school; and, as the wicked have length of days, he may live to do so again. And perhaps by that time, as the wicked are also said to flourish, he may even be as large a taxpayer as the Sun's anonymous correspondent—perhaps even rich enough to turn the microscope on the affairs of his less fortunate fellow citizens, who still have children at school, and who are only "laboring men."

However, returning to the question of manual training, neither the Times nor any of the long list of reputable citizens whose views it has quoted in favor of manual training, has questioned the question of assessment further than to contend that at the most the additional cost of introducing manual training would be very small, and the resulting advantages very great. The Times does not presume to say that the school board has not sufficient ability to resist matters in such a way as to provide for manual training without adding materially to the financial burden.

It seems to have been settled that the state should provide a common school system—that it is in the best interest of the state to do so. If that be accepted, then it follows that the most rational and helpful system should be adopted. Such a system includes manual training.

The attention of the Sun's correspondent, and others as well, is respectfully directed to this statement from the New York Times:—"The outcry against so-called fads and fashions keeps down the remarkable growth of manual training in modern schools. Never did it flourish as it does today, and this day of August next year is apt to see it in a still more advanced and stable position. Manual training has a charm for the pupils themselves which can never be supplied by the three R's or their kindred subjects."

"It was not so very long ago when manual training, as it is known today, was practically an unknown field. When it first attained some vogue the more serious members of the teaching profession looked upon it rather as a joke than otherwise. The pioneers in the new movement got little encouragement from either their less progressive fellows or from the parents of growing children. But they kept at their work and with every year their disciples grew in number and in strength."

"Now every school that pretends to be modern and thorough has its manual training branches. Some go into it more extensively than others, but none ignores it altogether. At conventions of teachers it receives more attention, perhaps, than any one of the older and supposedly more dignified branches of learning."

Thus the advocacy by this paper of the introduction of manual training in St. John schools has called forth two published protests. One objects on the ground that it was not taught to the ancient Academics or in Babylon; the other on the ground that the poor man with children at school is already getting "all that is coming to him." The cause is making progress.

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 1905.

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For Boys of All Ages.

"This store has been a regular boom to us," said the mother of several school boys, "it costs us much less to clothe our boys since we began buying here." You are paying cash. We sell for cash only. Spend your cash where it gets you the most satisfaction.

Boys' 2 Piece Suits, \$1.10 to \$4.00.
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J. N. HARVEY, Men's and Boys' Clothier,
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All varieties. Prompt attention to orders. Phone 1578.
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ASK YOUR GROCER

St. John Creamery Butter and Cream.

If he does not handle our goods call on us direct.
Creamery open for inspection every day, 92 King St.

Tel. 1432. W. H. BELL, Manager

Men's Blucher Balmorals, Calif. - - - \$3.25
Men's Box Balmorals, Calif. - - - 2.15
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J. W. SMITH, - - - 37 Waterloo Street.

JUST RECEIVED:
A new lot of Imported Cigars. You will find all the popular brands of Cigars at
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As September weddings bid fair to outnumber those of June, we extend a cordial invitation to those contemplating matrimony to call and get our prices. We are offering a special discount to those furnishing homes. Our store will be open evenings to give each party who may not have time during the day a chance to examine our goods.
Call and see the discount we are offering.

BUSTIN & WITHERS, Furniture, 99 Germain St.

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Of a year or two ago—and they are old—can't stand today in competition with the new, liberal, up-to-date Accident Policies now issued by

LOCKHART & RITCHIE,

78 Prince Wm. St., St. John, N. B.,
Agents in every town being appointed. Write today.THERE'S A LIMIT
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and we cannot repeat this offer. It is impossible for the factories to fill repeat orders for Tan Shoes this season. We offer the following to make room for Fall and Winter Goods.

Men's Tan Oxfords, now \$3.50, former price, . . . \$4.00
Men's Tan Oxfords, now \$2.50, former price, . . . \$3.50
Men's Tan Oxfords, now \$2.40, former price, . . . \$3.00
Men's Tan Laced Boots, were \$5.00, cut to . . . \$4.00
Men's Tan Laced Boots, were \$4.00, cut to . . . \$3.20
Men's Tan Laced Boots, were \$3.50, cut to . . . \$2.80
Men's Tan Laced Boots, were \$3.00, cut to . . . \$2.40
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Royal Standard Flour for Bread.

Ask your grocer for Royal Standard Flour. Wholesale by

NORTHROP & CO., - - - 23 and 24 South Wharf

SHEFFIELD

SHEFFIELD, Aug. 21—Miss S. L. Tapley of Lakeville Corner is in St. John buying goods for her store. Mrs. Archibald Barker entertained a number of her friends to a tea party on Friday.

Mrs. Levert Randall and daughter, Annie have arrived from Boston to spend the remainder of the summer with relatives at Lakeville Corner and vicinity. Miss Helen Ferguson is the guest of Miss Sadie S. Bridges also Miss Hazel Kirkpatrick of St. John.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bailey and daughter, Minnie, of Little River went to Lower Gagetown Saturday to spend a few days with Mrs. Bailey's sister, Mrs. Johnston Bridges, and family.

The Sarah Taylor Mission Band met in the Methodist church at this place on Saturday the 19th inst. at three o'clock.

Mrs. W. J. W. Bridges and Mrs. Abram Bridges are visiting relatives at Lower Gagetown. Miss Mary Harrison of Fredericton is expected in Sheffield Monday to spend a few days with Miss Annie Barker. Mr. and Mrs. Holly Watson are in Sheffield.

ANNAPOLIS

ANNAPOLIS, Aug. 21—Captain John McGee died at Lower Granville on Wednesday last after a protracted illness. He was 70 years old, and had followed the sea for many years. He leaves five children, two sons, one of whom, Alexander, is on a voyage to the West Indies in the schooner Gabriel, and the other, George B., at home. The daughter, Mrs. W. H. DeLap and Mrs. Winchester, both of Lower Granville, and Miss Carrie McGee, in Massachusetts. The marriage of John P. Haldy and Miss Eva Mills, both of Lower Granville, took place at the home of the bride's parents on Wednesday evening. Rev. John Hadden officiating.

St. Luke's Sabbath school held their annual picnic on Thursday at Bay Point. The Schurman train took several carloads in the morning; others followed by the noon express.

The groves in the vicinity of the terminal pier at Victoria Beach are being largely used for picnic parties. Last week steamer Edna took a large party there from Bear River, and several private parties have since been held there.

Rev. Father Power, of St. Louis R. C. church, was last week the recipient of a massive oak study chair, presented to the reverend gentleman by Miss Beaman of New York, who is summering here, a guest at the Clifton.

Mayor R. L. Hardwick has been laid up the past week from illness bordering on fever.

Fred Leavitt, stipendiary magistrate, who has been confined to his home for a week through illness, has so far recovered as to be driven to his office.

Joseph D. Kempton of Glenora, N. B., left on Saturday to look after his son who is home-staying at West Wm. Assiniboia. Mr. Kempton intends making a test of western life, and if agreeable will stay there. Mrs. Kempton accompanies him.

Rev. Father Power returned from Halifax Saturday evening, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Catherine Power, and his sister, Miss Allen.

Mrs. Harvelock Hart and two daughters of Halifax, in visita at the home of Rev. J. R. Hart, at Granville Ferry.

Rev. J. E. Cheese of England arrived last week, and is the guest of Mr. G. O. Cheese, barrister of this town.

Captain Roop, late of the schooner Doris M. Pickup, is at home. He will remain in the city some time, having left the vessel in charge of Captain Duke-shire.

Miss A. R. Hart is at home for her vacation. Before leaving Boston Miss Hart was elected as resident teacher of English in the school for girls, one of the best private schools in Boston.

James Walsh, of Bathurst, visited J. Neale Watson on Saturday.

Mrs. Wm. Wathen and son, of Richibucto, are visiting Stipendiary Magistrate L. J. Wathen.

The Misses M. Isabel Pearson and M. Edith Hall of Base River and Trout Brook, spent Sunday here.

Mrs. J. M. MacLeod and James McK. MacLeod came home from Richibucto on the 19th.

Miss Margaret M. Curren, of West Branch, returned to Harcourt on Saturday to attend the superior school.

Kirby B. Wathen, John MacLeod and John Owens spent Friday and Saturday fishing in Little Portia stream, catching ten dozen trout.

Last week great forest fires raged over Birch Ridge, east of here, and over Lake Stream valley, 14 miles west. The latter fire threatened to destroy the Miller Co's bark and John Owen's hemlock logs. There was a heavy rain yesterday, which has probably put the fires out.

Yesterday morning the Presbyterian church, Rev. H. Slaver, pastor, received twenty-one new members on profession of faith—Misses Marion Dunn, Grace K. Bailey, Alma MacLeod, Sarah Livingstone, Mary Hutchinson, Margaret Cameron, Maud MacPherson, Mary Spencer, Maud and Dorella Smallwood; Melvin B. Dunn; Madeline John Hutchinson, George Bailey and Andrew McIntosh. On deposit of certificate—Mrs. Ellen Ferguson, Miss Margaret Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. John MacLeod, Mrs. Hugh English, Mrs. James Carter and John Robertson.

GRAND FALLS

GRAND FALLS, Aug. 21—Norman L. McGowan, St. John, has been in town for several days.

Dr. P. H. Laporte, Edmundston, and Miss Anna Maria Laporte, and Miss De Louise Albert, Van Buren, Me., are in town today.

H. B. Colwell, J. W. Davidson, J. D. McEwen and N. L. McGowan, St. John, passed Sunday in town.

J. P. Donworth, councillor-at-law, Carleton Place, and C. F. Bourgeois, Carleton Place, passed Sunday here.

Today is excessively warm, the thermometer being 80 degs. in the shade.

A telegram received by the chief of police at Charlottetown last night, conveyed the information that James W. Crawford, of P. E. Island, yesterday killed his wife and committed suicide.

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MEN'S HAND MADE KIP LONG BOOTS - - \$3.00

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The Designer

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