

The St. John Standard

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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

There is a tendency on the part of some Grit newspapers to attempt to make capital against Hon. J. D. Hazen's administration of the Marine and Fisheries Department out of the fact that there have been 510 dismissals from that department since Mr. Hazen took charge. The figures are correct, but what the Grit press carefully conceal from their readers is the fact that the department carries more than 7,000 employees, so that the number of dismissals is, after all, but 7.3 per cent. of the whole. How does this compare with the Grit record? During the regime of the party of Laurier there were 2,500 employees in the same service, and of this number there were 420 dismissals, or a percentage of 16.1.

There can be no comparison between the administration of the Marine and Fisheries Department under Hon. Mr. Hazen and the manner in which that service was conducted during the tenure of his predecessors. Take the case of Mr. Prefontaine or Mr. Brodeur. What condition was the department in at that time? Even the local Grit newspapers have occasion to remember a certain investigation held into the conduct of the department when sittings took place in this city, and the revelations were not such as to convey the opinion that departmental affairs were carried on with a single view to efficient service.

In fact there could be no better endorsement for the present government than for some of the discredited Grit newspapers to effect a true comparison between the Marine Department now and the Department as it was under the Laurier ministers. But it is almost too much to hope that such a test would be made. Followers of the Laurier party have no desire to expose the skeletons in the party closet. They prefer to make unfounded statements and crawl when confronted with their untruths.

THE SUBURBAN SERVICE.

Hon. J. D. Reid, acting Minister of Railways, who, at the request of Hon. J. D. Hazen, comes to St. John to discuss with suburbanites grievances arising from changes made by General Manager Gutelius in the I. C. R. schedules, should receive much interesting and valuable information today and it cannot be that he will permit the Gutelius idea to remain in effect if he discovers that its continuance means much personal loss and inconvenience to taxpayers living between St. John and Hampton.

Of course Dr. Reid will have to consider that St. John is not an isolated case. The order removing suburban trains was a general one affecting the entire I. C. R. system. Halifax and other points find themselves in a position similar to our own. Also it would not do to restore the service in St. John without according similar treatment to other complainants.

A BRITISH COLUMBIAN PLAN.

Again the proposal has been made that Great Britain, or, with permission, Canada, should purchase, or otherwise secure, from the United States, that portion of Alaska which shut out a large part of northern British Columbia from the sea. Not long ago Hon. Frank O. Smith of Maryland introduced in the American Congress a resolution which had for its ultimate purpose the sale of the territory to Canada or the exchange of it for some other tract of land of more value. It was immediately scouted and the motion got no further.

Nature, however, has acted to settle the minds of the British Columbians over the same question. A pre-arranging glacier is reported to have choked the only available harbor near the "Alaskan panhandle" and consequently there is some clamor for additional coast line. The proposal is that some portion of land of little value to Great Britain should be exchanged with the United States for this slice of Alaskan territory and the suggested British offering is British Honduras, or British Guiana, Honduras is said to be of little value to Great Britain but might be of great value to the United States.

It is not likely that the plan will be received with enthusiasm in British Columbia, it ever gets that far in view of the early completion of the Panama Canal, Honduras in Central or South America, are likely to be more important to British eyes

and, consequently, the exchange might be more difficult than some of the British Columbians seem to think, even if the United States were willing, which is also doubtful. Patriotic sentiment would probably stand in the way of the United States parting with any of her Pacific coast line and the western states might also have special interests which would prove effective in arousing opposition in Washington. So while it would be an advantage to British Columbia to have the deal go through, it is doubtful if the project will prove quite as easy of arrangement as some Pacific coast advocates believe.

EARL MINTO'S DEATH.

By the death in London yesterday of the Earl of Minto, who preceded Earl Grey as Canada's Governor General, the people of the Dominion lose a friend and the Empire parts with one of the foremost advocates and workers for its solidarity. Earl Minto was especially interested in Canada and Canadian affairs. A patron of all movements for social and national development, as well as a devotee of sport, he found in the keen jirility of the Canadian life an attraction that even the laudatory luxury of India could not equal, and although he went from Ottawa to the Indian capital, he never forgot his Canada. During his tenure of office his simple directness won for him warm admirers and he will take rank amongst the most genuinely popular of the King's representatives who have made the famous old Rideau Hall their temporary home. Canada sincerely mourns his decease.

THE BECKER CASE

Charles Becker, formerly Lieutenant of police in New York, convicted of the murder of Herman Rosenthal, a gambler, and sentenced to be electrocuted, has been granted a new trial by the Court of Appeals in America's largest city, and the decision opens up all sorts of possibilities for another legal battle that may drag itself out even to as great length as the Thaw case.

Rosenthal was murdered in the full glare of Broadway's electric lights on July 18th, 1912. Ten days later, the first arrests were made and the confession of "Baldy" Jack Rose implicated Becker as the man who hired the quartette of assassins to slay the gambler. All were convicted but post-ponements were secured pending appeals. Decisions have just been given and the gunmen must die while Becker, who employed them, gets a new trial.

His friends and others, in their joy at the decision, have declared that Becker will never be convicted and if the processes of United States law are as leaden-footed in his case as in that of Thaw people will probably have forgotten what it is all about. The case is another illustration that where much money or strong pull is concerned the law in New York State is not swift to act.

Ontario Liberals have read unfortunate Mr. Eventurel out of the party because he asked a \$10,000 bribe from the liquor men. We absolutely refuse to be satisfied, however, until we see him publicly repudiated by those eminent purists Mr. Pugsley, Mr. Carvell, Mr. Emmerson and the Telegraph and Times. Taking purity as their text what interesting sermons any one of them could preach. The time is ripe.

When A. K. MacLean, of Halifax, moves in the House of Commons, to provide more stringent penalties for electoral corruption, and E. M. McDonald, of Picton, approves it, it is a fair assumption that their memories are blank on certain incidents connected with the recent bye-election in Victoria, C. B.

Mr. Eventurel, that Prescott, Ontario, M.L.A., who asked \$10,000 from the liquor interests as the price of his legislative support, has been expelled from the Liberal party. He must be a bad case indeed when his guilt is too flagrant even for the party of Monsieur, Bernard and Bergeron.

The N. T. R. revelations serve to recall to the mind the story of the watchman who slept while burglars entered his master's house. Only in this case the watchman unlocked the door before he settled down for his nap.

Just to show that we have not forgotten it we venture the opinion that March came in like a lamb.

Sixteen Deaths.

At the board of health offices last week sixteen deaths were recorded from the following causes: Pneumonia, three, heart failure two, exposure to the two, phthisis, senility, uncleanliness, carcinoma, chronic nephritis, bronchitis, pneumonia, whooping cough, various diseases of heart and throat, and of blood vessel, one each.

Diary of Events

THE HUMAN PROCESSION

GREAT AMERICAN ORGANIST

Dr. William Crane Carl, most celebrated and perhaps the greatest of American organists, was born in Bloomfield, N. J., forty-nine years ago today. A musical genius, Dr. Carl is also a red-blooded man, and he has given concerts in many odd corners of the world, including China, Spain and Alaska. When the Klondike rush was at its height, Dr. Carl risked the hazards of a trip to the frozen north in order to conduct series of recitals at Dawson City. He was the first concert organist to play as far north, and probably no other musician ever received such enthusiastic applause as was accorded to Dr. Carl by the miners and adventurers of the gold country.

A NOTED PLAYWRIGHT

Edwin Milton Royle, the playwright, was born at 11 Madison, fifty-two years ago today. His educational advantages were limited to a course at the Salt Lake City College. He finished four years at the University with the degree of A. B., a post-graduate course at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, and the law course at Oculia University. He was followed by a number of plays, and he was entirely self-educated. The profession of the law did not appeal to him, and he went on the stage. At the age of thirty he married Selma Petter, an actress, and wrote a play entitled "Friends," in which they starred jointly for several seasons with great success. This was followed by "Captain Impudence." In 1905 he wrote "The Squaw Man" for William Faversham. "Marrying Mary," with Marie Cahill in the chief role, ran at the University of the Pacific, and "The Struggle Everlasting," a modern morality play, "These Are My People," and "The Unwritten Law," are among the plays he has written. Royle's versatile pen—or typewriter.

THE PASSING DAY

John Wesley, founder of Methodism, died 123 years ago today, and many Methodist pastors throughout the world will honor his memory by stopping their church clocks for ten minutes today. This novel plan for an annual commemoration originated with the minister of an Illinois church, and has been taken up by Methodist clergymen in several countries, although the custom is still far from being general.

Today, 123 years after his death, John Wesley has a following estimated at twenty millions, more than a third of the population of the United States and Canada. There have been many divisions in Methodism since the death of its founder, and in the United States alone there are now not less than sixteen branches of the denomination. The principal divisions are the northern and southern branches of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which have remained distinct organizations since disrupted by the civil war. Colored Methodists have divided into three factions, and derive their spiritual sustenance from African Methodist Episcopal, African Union Methodist Protestant and African Methodist Episcopal Zion. White American Methodists travel the road to heaven under banners inscribed Methodist Episcopal, North and South; Union American Methodist, New Connection, Primitive Methodist, Free Methodist, Reformed Methodist Union, Episcopal and Independent Methodist.

British Methodists have not found so many points of divergence, although there have been several secessions from the original Wesleyan connection. The New Connection left the parent body in 1786, five years after the death of John Wesley. The Primitive Methodists formed a separate body in England in 1810, the Bible Christians or Bryanites five years later, the Wesleyan Methodist Association in 1834, and the Wesleyan Methodist Reformers in 1849. The latter defection arose when several prominent Methodists were expelled because they were suspected of the authorship of "Fly Sheets" advocating reform in the body.

HALIFAX SHIPPING.

Halifax, N. S., March 1.—The C. P. R. liner, *Algonquin*, arrived this morning after a stormy trip from Liverpool. She brought the largest passenger list of the season and 3,754 packages of mail.

The *Empress* reported that on Feb. 24 she was in wireless communication with the overdue Uranium liner *Principello* in lat. 48.40, long. 30.38. The steamer is from Rotterdam for Halifax.

The Allan liner *Algonquin* got away early today for Liverpool with 500 passengers and a large cargo. Among the passengers were Hon. Frank O. Smith, Minister of Railways, W. D. Scott, Inspector of Immigration, and M. M. Botwin, vice-president of the C. P. R., and wife.

The Royal Mail steamer *Chaleur*, which sailed from Halifax on Friday for Bermuda, the Windward Islands and Demerara had a large list of first-class passengers, chiefly from the Maritime Provinces. At Bermuda this list will be supplemented by the arrival of a large party who have gone out from New York so that the ship has got southward every cabin taken. The *Chaleur* also had a very large freight cargo for Barbados, Trinidad and Demerara.

Case Adjourned. George Liffon was brought into the police court Saturday morning and was remanded. Daniel Mullin, K.C., who is appearing for the prisoner, asked to have the case adjourned until March 9 as he expects to be absent from the city next week. Urban J. Sweeney, acting for Abraham Saltsman, agreed to this and the adjournment was granted. The prisoner will be kept on remand until the day of the trial. He is charged with obtaining money under false pretences from Saltsman.

Actual Test Desired. Gibbs—"There's one thing I'd like very much to find out about myself."

Gibbs—"What is that?"

Gibbs—"Whether or not I could stand prosperity."

IN LIGHTER VEIN

AND HE DID



Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE.

Pop and me was riding home in a trolley yesterday and we saw a lady awn the other side of the trolley trying to open the window, being a pritty lady with little red shoes and a big red hat.

Nervir let it be said that William Potts stood idly by and permitted a lady to struggle with an insolent windo unassisted, sed pop, and he went over and tipped his hat, saying, May I help you madam.

It sticks, sed the lady. I see it, sed, sed pop, perhaps it needs a mans touch, allow me, And he put both hands awn the thing you sed the windo up by, and pulled, but the hardir he pulled, the moar the windo stayed down.

It sticks, sed the lady. Yes, sed pop, but I think I can make it. And he pulled so hard his face got aww red and his hat cam down over his eyes, but the moar he pulled the moar nothing happened.

May be if you waisled to it it mite do sum good, sed a fat man with a red neck tie sitting awn side of the lady.

Four hot watter in the cracks, that mite help sum, sed a skinnie man, with a green neck tie sitting awn the other side of the lady.

It sticks, sed the lady. Just then pop pulled so hard his elbow

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Do you ever take a physical inventory of yourself? It is an excellent way of bringing weak points to your attention; and when you recognize them you can take means to make them strong.

The weak point physically in many men and women is in their eyes. From disuse, overwork, carelessness or neglect, their eyes are not in the condition they should be.

How about your eyes? Do they feel strained or do they pain you?

Then have us examine them for you. If you require glasses we will prescribe the correct lenses and if you do not need them we will tell you so.

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hit the lady's hat, knocking it over wun eer. The fideer, sed the lady, putting her hat awn strite agren. I beg yure pardon, im sure, sed pop, and jest then he gave the windo aushlir rearse pull and lit the lady's hat agren, knocking it over the sailm eer.

Yure doing this awn perpsie, sed the lady, and the fat man sed, Maybe if you went outside and put a stick under it, you cood get it up that way, and the skinnie man sed, A man awt to awlways harry a oil can around with him, that's my opinyon.

Do you want this windo open, or dont you, sed pop to the lady. Yes, I want it open, sed the lady, but I dont want my hat knocked over my eer awt the time.

Very well then, sed pop, and he began to pull the windo agren, the lady holding awn to her hat with both hands, and jest then the konduktor cam up and sed, Wats the trubbl heer.

It sticks, sed the lady. Stand aside, sed the konduktor to pop, and he put out wun hand and opined the windo easy as anything.

Hi ha, sed the fat man and the skinnie man both together. Enyboddy cood open it after I spent 10 minits loosening it, sed pop, kum awn, Benny.

And we got aww and wawked the rest of the way hoam, beeing 6 blocks.

In the Minister's Family.

She was the youngest of eight children in a minister's family, and as his salary was not large, she already had learned that there was many things the family could not have. One day her father told her that she had a new baby, sister.

"Well, papa," she said bravely, "I suppose it's all right, but it seems to me there were a lot of things we needed more."

Selfishness. The ayster was bewailing its hard luck. "I don't mind being 'pickled' once in awhile," said the oyster, "or even being 'deviled' occasionally, but I'm tired to death of being called 'the luscious vivale'."

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