

# The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1911.

## HYDRO-ELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT.

At a meeting of the Common Council this evening the representatives of the city will be called upon to deal with the question of the franchise of the Hydro-Electric Company—a question of supreme importance in view of the demand for cheap power and at the same time requiring careful consideration in order to safeguard the city's interests. The application of the Hydro-Electric Company is the first definite step towards utilizing the water powers in the neighborhood of St. John. Much has been heard in recent years about the possibilities of development but nothing has been done. Civil engineers employed by the company, including Mr. William Kennedy, one of the greatest electrical authorities on the continent, have reported favorably on the question of successful development, and the company, having secured the rights to the sources of power on the Lepreau and Magaguadavic rivers now comes to the Council and submits a proposition. There are other water powers and there may be other companies which at some future time may require equal consideration, but the fact should not be lost sight of that the opportunity present itself for the development of the powers on these two rivers and if the terms are fair and reasonable, and from the report of Aid. Kierstead it would appear they are, they should be accepted without further delay.

It is a bad habit on the part of many esteemed citizens to criticize everything new or untried which comes to their notice before giving serious thought as to how far their complaints may react against the progress of the city. These have been criticisms levelled against the Hydro-electric proposition. It may therefore be as well to examine, briefly, what the company proposes to do. It offers to supply St. John with electricity generated on neighboring rivers and agrees to save the citizens using electric light one-quarter of the present cost. It offers to the manufacturers to take approximately one-quarter of what they are now paying, and proposes to disburse its construction and in purchase of property nearly \$2,000,000.

The Council is asked to grant the company the privilege of distributing electricity in St. John on its own poles, to be placed where the city directs or on any other poles that the city sees fit at the expense of the company. The company further guarantees to cut the present rates in two in many cases, but none less than 25 per cent, leaving open the question of rate adjustment at any time by the Public Utilities Commission. This privilege of distributing is asked for a period of fifty years, but is not exclusive, any company or companies being free to enter the city on the same terms, and is not unreasonable in view of the fact that bondholders would naturally require some guarantee of permanency before they would invest their money. We do not see in the Hydro-electric proposal any serious grounds for criticism, especially as a safeguard against any possibility of the undertaking being merely a speculative enterprise is contained in the stipulation that if electricity from the company's power plant is not available within three years there is an end to the bargain.

It must be borne in mind that New Brunswick is not the Province for water powers that Ontario is. We have not available the millions of horse power they have running to waste, and it costs more in New Brunswick to harness the few falls we possess. The lighting rate of the Hydro-Electric in St. John is to be a net rate of 7½ cents per kilowatt, which compares very favorably with the following rates in Ontario: Bradford, 8½c; Brockville, 10c; Buffalo, Ont., 10c; Calgary (municipal plant) 10 1/2c; Cornwall, Ont., 12½c; Galt, Ont., 12c; Guelph, Ont., 10c; Hamilton, Ont., 12½c; Kingston, Ont., 10c; London, Ont., 9c; Owen Sound, 7½c; Ottawa, 7 1/2c; St. Catharines, 7c; Toronto, 8c. It must be remembered that some of these cities are supplied from Niagara Falls, where the development was exceedingly cheap and there were no storage dams, nor even a power dam to build, and that furthermore the Province of Ontario has made it its business to see that the rates were cut down to the lowest possible.

Apart from the benefit to the Province which will be derived from the expenditure of a large sum of money in the undertaking, the investment of outside capital must prove an excellent advertisement. It should result in a better knowledge of the possibilities of New Brunswick and be the means of attracting further industries, all calculated to make for progress. Already there are signs that this publicity is bearing fruit. Enquiries have been instituted recently for the purchase of a three thousand acre farm for potato growing on the St. John river. A sheep farm of six thousand acres is being investigated, both of these by syndicates who knew nothing of the possibilities in New Brunswick until they became interested in the Hydro-Electric.

We have talked cheaper power long enough. In the meantime we are standing still while other Provinces are going ahead. The proposition to come before the Council is backed by an exhaustive report made by Aid. Kierstead a committee, and with the safeguards provided we see no reason why it should not go through. The opportunity to make a start presents itself. The lead taken by the Hydro-Electric may result in the development of other water powers. If we are ever going to demonstrate what possibilities along this line there are in the neighborhood of this city we may as well begin.

## THE GOVERNMENT OF FAIR PLAY.

The Borden Administration bids fair to earn the title rightly given it by the London Free Press—"The Government of Fair Play." After a lengthy period, during which their just reforms were either overlooked or slapsly despised before them as possibilities under certain conditions, the Provincial Governments of Canada are suddenly enjoying the new experience of a sympathetic Government at Ottawa.

Ontario people have already become aware that there is a new era dawning for them, and the Whitney Government, in going to the country for a renewal of office, draws attention to the changed conditions under which they will now be able to do business. Mr. Borden took advanced ground during his campaign by declaring for Federal assistance towards road roads, agricultural training and active colonization. These are three questions of prime importance to Ontario and in which the Government of Sir James will gladly co-operate.

The change at Ottawa marks also a new activity in matters relating to Manitoba. The most important of these relates to boundary extension, necessary to place the pioneer Western Province on an equality with its younger but quite as energetic sister Provinces. For years the Laurier Government trifled with this important question, and the new Government has now taken the matter seriously.

Not less important to Manitoba than the boundary question, and closely connected with it, is the building of the Hudson's Bay Railway, which is no longer regarded as other than a matter of straight business.

So, too, with British Columbia. Premier McBride was in Ottawa recently, and he recognized the changed conditions when he said: "We have been here before, but with little success. But now we are in the house of our friends." British Columbia has its important questions; the Federal grant to the Province, the provincial fisheries, the Dominion lands in the Province, Indian reserves, and the old vexed issue of Asiatic immigration. All these questions have been long to the front, but the settlement held back by hostility at Ottawa.

The two prairie Provinces, Alberta and Saskatchewan, after fighting vainly for the control of their public lands, now have their opportunity to enter upon the rights in this respect that are enjoyed by older Provinces. The list might be extended. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec rest assured that the expenditure necessary for their shipping growth will be forthcoming, and with all the other Provinces stand to share in the aid which Mr. Borden promises from Ottawa for roads and agriculture.

It is surely a better day that has dawned for the Provinces one and all. Fair play to each of them and a spirit of co-operation between all will do much to send Canada far forward on its destiny during the next few years.

## SUN-YAT-SEN'S CAMPAIGN.

Dr. James Cantile, the famous London surgeon, is a personal friend of Dr. Sun-Yat-Sen, the Chinese revolutionary leader, who was a medical student when the well-known surgeon was a professor at Hong Kong. Their friendship has been continuous and intimate, and in interviews in the London papers Dr. Cantile has been explaining the real inwardness of the present revolution. Sun-Yat-Sen's party is opposed to the Manchu dynasty, and wants to see a Republic in China. "I often laughed at him," says the doctor, "and told him that it would be difficult to rouse the people against the throne—people who live by the throne, and who are built up upon loyalty to the throne. I have told him it was impossible, because the king there is not a king—he is a god, and, therefore, there is entertained for him a sort of respect which you cannot get rid of."

"He replied that perhaps we do not understand things out there as well as he does. He says the different provinces of China are more important than the different states in the United States, and more independent even than Canada is of this country. A victory which is won only into a Chinese province has absolute power. He only reports to the Government—that is, the Manchu dynasty—that a new matter of great importance is to come up for consideration, and every member is urged to attend."

"Another thing I know him by in this rebellion is this. All the foreigners are being respected. The foreigners need not fear that a hair of their heads will be touched, except, of course, by some rebel soldiery. Further than this, all the Christian churches are to be respected. He himself is a Christian; not a convert. His father was a Christian, and when Sun-Yat-Sen was in London he went regularly with me to church on Sundays, the Church of St. Martin."

Dr. Cantile says Sun-Yat-Sen has plenty of money, and two-thirds of the foreign-dressed troops are rebel sympathizers. This is the third or fourth rebellion within the last four or five years. On one occasion he went across the French border into the southern provinces of China, but that failed. Two other attempts before they were also unsuccessful. Although he had plenty of men, money and guns, his ammunition failed. They fired it all away in a few days and they had no means of getting any more. They could not buy it, and they could not get it from the French across the border. Consequently it was always the ammunition that failed. Now he has got an arsenal, and in that sense he is perfectly certain of success so long as foreign armies do not declare war against him.

Mrs. Margaret Murphy, an aged woman, who called at The Standard office on Saturday was also a visitor to the Globe. Her case is clearly set forth and deserves some attention from the proper authorities. She complains, says the Globe, "that she is sick and suffering, and in want and that her son, who is her only support, is confined in jail because he drank a little too much."

Mrs. Murphy says her boy is a good provider and every week gave her money to run the house. But because he happened to take a little too much beer the police arrested him and he had been sent to jail for two months. With tears in her eyes, the old lady complained that her effort to have him released had been unavailing and she was being hard put to it to get along with out his help. She did not consider such treatment "Christian-like and could not understand what good or satisfaction the city of St. John got in locking her boy up and compelling a sick old woman to go out and work, simply because he had happened to drink a little too much."

As we understand the situation, the unfortunate man is on the interval list. Rather than to be a question of jail for him, activity should be directed to discover who supplied him with liquor. Inebriety when it reaches a certain stage is a disease. Few will be disposed to disagree with Mrs. Murphy's opinion that such treatment is un-Christian-like and no credit to the community.

To transact certain necessary state business during the King's absence in India, Prince Arthur of Connaught, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Loreburn, as Lord Chancellor, and Lord Morley, President of the Privy Council, have been appointed a commission. This is an ancient and convenient practice. When King George I. made periodical and sometimes prolonged visits to Hanover, his constant habit was to appoint a commission of Lords Justices with power to summon and hold Privy Councils for the transaction of any state business that needed the sovereign's sanction, and could not await his return. When Queen Victoria was away at Cannes a commission was sometimes appointed in the same way, for although the Prince of Wales (King Edward) ordinarily acted for his mother, he was formally appointed in exactly the same way as Lords Justices were commissioned. In the late reign there were at least half a dozen occasions on which a commission was appointed for precisely similar purposes, and in this case also the Prince of Wales (King George) acted for the sovereign. In the present instance the commission will have power to summon and hold such meetings of the Privy Council as may be found necessary during the King's absence.

The strength of British Columbia's Conservatism, says the Victoria Colonist, can be gathered from an analysis of the vote at the recent Dominion election. The solidity of the Province can be gathered from the fact that out of a total vote of 44,599 the supporters of the present Government polled a majority of 9,418. This is a splendid showing and behind the seven representatives returned to Ottawa, is the voice of a people who have demonstrated in very pronounced terms what they consider the right of the future should be for this country.

## EXMOUTH ST. CHURCH GETS MONEY FOR ORGAN

Member of Congregation Volunteers Assistance and Church Raises the Balance—Service Last Evening.

The service held in the Exmouth street Methodist church last evening for the purpose of raising the balance of the cost of the new organ was well attended and proved to be a success. Ex-Chief Justice Tuck presided and an excellent programme of music and speeches consisting of, doxology, prayer, hymn, prayer, Scripture reading, collection, selection by choir, remarks, chairman, address Hon. Robt. Maxwell, selection by choir, address Jas. Miles, hymn, address Rev. W. W. Brewer, selection by choir, offering for organ and anthem, hymn, benediction, was provided.

A member of the congregation said that he would give \$150 toward the organ and if a like sum was raised by subscription, the sum of \$979.75 was raised.

The young ladies of the church have the sum of \$160 to their account in the bank and the young men have \$150, this makes a total of \$1289.75.

## GREAT LEGAL LIGHT GONE.

Contributed 100 Legal Articles to the Encyclopedia Britannica.

London, Nov. 8.—Dr. James Williams, high sheriff of Flintshire, a contributor of over 100 legal articles in successive editions of the Encyclopedia Britannica, and many in law magazines and reviews, died here today. He was born in 1851. He was the author of a number of books on law, including The School Master and the Law, Wills and Succession, Law and Education, Dante as a Jurist, and Law of the Universities. He also wrote A Lawyer's Lawyer (verse) Simple Stories of London, Briefless Ballads, and Ventures in Verse.

Meeting of Ladies' Aid. The regular monthly meeting of the Ladies' Aid of the Seaman's Institute will be held this afternoon at 3:30 p.m. at the Seaman's Institute. The subject of the evening will be "The Importance of the Seaman's Institute to the Seaman and his Family." The meeting is open to all ladies and every member is urged to attend.

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## J.C. MACKINTOSH & CO. ON THE MARKET

The favorable trading conditions that have prevailed in the local market for some weeks past have continued. Insiders are evidently taking advantage of the big corporation at least until such a time as the company is able to complete and have its proposed rail works in operation.

**CLOSING STOCK LETTER.**  
By Direct Private Wires to J. C. Mackintosh & Co.  
New York, Nov. 11.—There was a considerable influx of outside buying in today's market under which prices maintained a steady undertone but it was evident that the supply of stocks was larger than in immediately recent sessions, as was only natural in view of the wide and virtually uninterrupted advance that has occurred since the market was taken by surprise a week ago now showing considerable activity as now showing some reaction, while others which were temporarily neglected have been taken in hand. The general trading conditions seem very favorable, unless it be that some of the new traders are coming into the market who are taking on larger blocks than they should, this gradually resulting in the technical position being made rather precarious. With money as easy as it is at the present time, prices may still go higher in special issues, but quite a number of houses seem disposed to advise clients to take profits. While the local market was not affected by the decline in Wall street, still the better market in New York has affected the local from a sentimental standpoint, inasmuch as any market strength in issues like C. P. R. and Soo are quickly reflected in the higher prices for the same securities on the Montreal market.

Among the power issues Shawinigan came in for some attention and went to a new high level about 119. Montreal Power and other issues had relative quietness and any advance of buying orders always results in bringing about marked advances. The company is now delivering in power, and the additional power to the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company, and the earnings for the month of November are quickly reflected in the additional revenue being obtained.

Mexican Power Bond Issue. Mexican Light and Power, which has shown some activity on buying for London account, was scarcely affected by the announcement that the company would issue \$5,000,000 of 5 per cent. second mortgage bonds. Usually such an issue would be regarded as unfavorable development, but in the present instance it is understood that the money being obtained from the sale of the bonds is to pay off all the outstanding liabilities, and that this will pave the way for increased distribution on the common.

Canadian Converters which has been on the quiet side for some weeks, attracted attention by a sudden move from around 36 to 42. There has been very little market for this stock recently, but the improvement is thought to reflect the better condition of the companies included in Converters are not in, as a result of finding a better market for their staple lines.

R. and O. Dividend. Richelleu and Ontario has continued to show considerable activity, but the irregularity in the price has indicated that there must be some considerable difference of opinion among the directors as to what would be the best course to pursue with regard to the next dividend distribution on Dec. 1st. One of the directors was of the opinion that as far as to state that an 8 per cent. dividend could be counted on, but afterwards this particular director denied having made such a statement. If, in reality, a high rate of dividend is coming, Richelleu does not seem to have had the market support that would indicate it.

Considering the big advance that has been experienced in the stock of the Canadian Company of Canada, traders have wondered why the stocks of the Dominion Steel Corporation did not go to a larger extent in the general market advances. Lately there has been a disposition to believe that the

closer relationship that exists between Sir William Van Horne and Premier Borden will result in the new government lending some assistance to the big corporation at least until such a time as the company is able to complete and have its proposed rail works in operation.

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in the distribution of handsome equities to stockholders. Even in this quarter, however, there was evidence of heavy realising and final prices ranged irregularly from one point above to a point below last night's closing. The normal disposition of the part of a large number of speculators to take fair profits in anticipation of a possible reaction was intensified by the usual week-end evening up process. All things considered the market gave a good account of itself and while the expected reaction is overdue, there is no sound reason for believing that the advance has reached culmination.

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