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VOTERS' LISTS.

Sheriff Sturdee Declines to Consider Applications to the List Until After Election.

Takes a Stand of His Own in the Matter —A Conflict of Opinion Between the Sheriff and the Department of Justice.

(From Daily Sun, 23rd.)

Sheriff Sturdee reached a decision yesterday which is of great interest to a large number of voters in the city and county of Saint John.

Some time ago J. B. M. Baxter, on behalf of the Liberal Conservative party, applied to add one name to the local list. C. J. Milligan, the liberal organizer, opposed the application which was withdrawn, there having been an error as to the young man's age. The sheriff then suggested that both parties should agree as to form of affidavits for such applications, and asked both gentlemen to endeavor to arrange for hearings under the act so that they should conflict as little as possible with the sheriff's busy time just before election. On this occasion Sheriff Sturdee said that he thought the fair reading of the provincial act was that he should hear applications down to ten days before the day of election, and not ten days before nomination day. This was a distinct disapproval of the stand taken by Sheriff Reid of Queens county in he late provincial election. At the same time the sheriff said that it would be almost impossible for him to give the time necessary for this work near election and hoped that it would be arranged earlier. The conservative leaders then authorized Mr. Baxter to make any reasonable and fair agreement on the subject, but Mr. Milligan was unable to obtain authority from his side. Negotiations were dropped in consequence. At the hearing spoken of both the sheriff and Mr. Milligan took the ground that even if additions should be made to the local lists, yet that they could not be regarded by the sheriff as returning officer and that the lists as they then existed were final for dominion purposes. To support this contention there was a circular from the Queen's printer at Ottawa, and Mr. Milligan stated that such was the opinion of the solicitor general of Canada. Mr. Baxter had more faith in his own reading of the law than in the opinion of the solicitor general, and accordingly the liberal conservative party in this city set to work to obtain applications from voters who were qualified in 1899, but whose names were not on the list. While quite a number were obtained, yet the opinion of the sheriff operated very strongly to discourage the making of applications, as many of the workers felt that their toil would be fruitless.

A few days ago Mr. Baxter again applied to the sheriff for a summons calling on the revisors to show cause why several names should not be added, and the sheriff complained of being asked to do work which must eventually be useless, as he could not use them in the election. Mr. Baxter insisted that the names could be added and asked for an opportunity to test the matter, saying that once the names were on the provincial list he proposed to apply to the supreme court for a mandamus to compel Mr. Sturdee, as returning officer, to put them on the dominion list. The sheriff then asked to have the application stand until Saturday and on that day put the matter off until yesterday. Yesterday morning the sheriff told Mr. Baxter that he would make the summonses returnable on Wednesday or Thursday of this week and that the liberals were making applications which he would hear on the same day. It appears that the following circular had been received by the sheriff as returning officer:

To the Returning Officers for the Electoral District of ——:

Sir—In the electoral districts of New Brunswick the question has arisen whether the New Brunswick Elections act as amended by section 4, chapter 24, of the act passed in 1889, authorizing the sheriffs to add to or make alterations in the voters' lists up to the tenth day before polling, applies to the voters' lists on which the coming elections will be held; and, as different views seem to prevail in the different counties, and as it was desirable that there should be uniformity of action, the question was referred to the department of justice for consideration. The law officers of the crown have given the opinion that the New Brunswick act as amended does apply and that the sheriffs have the powers referred to in section 4. The additions and changes should, however, be promptly sent to the clerk of the crown in chancery at Ottawa, who will make the corresponding changes in the voters' lists on file in his office. An extra copy of the voters' list has been sent to you in the event of any additions or changes having to be made, which you can use for that purpose.

By reference to sub-section 7 of section 10 of the Franchise Act of 1896 it will be observed that provision is made for verifying changes in and additions to the list of voters made since the final revision where the provincial law authorizes such changes or additions.

Yours, etc.,
(Signed) R. W. SCOTT.

This circular, it will be seen, turns down the opinion for which Mr. Milligan quoted the solicitor general of Canada as an authority, and fully substantiates the position taken by Mr. Baxter.

In the afternoon Mr. Baxter presented some 32 applications, and the sheriff said that he would hear them on any day after the 10th November, declaration day. He still maintained that they could not be used in dominion elections and that this was the first opportunity that he would have time to consider them. After some discusssion, Mr. Baxter agreed to have 14th November set for hearing the applications, and the sheriff then asked what was the point in adding them at that time, as the new lists for provincial elections would be nearly ready then. Mr. Baxters reply was, "Because I want to have your summons, signed by you, in my pocket, so that you will have that as an additional reason for refusing to yield to any demands from the liberal party to have an earlier date fixed for hearing any applications which they may make."

The sheriff assured Mr. Baxter that he would treat both paries alike and that no applications would be heard from either party before that date.

Mr. Baxter had before this asked for one application to be heard so that he could get a test case before the supreme court, but this was refused. Last week he offered to provide a stenographer to take the evidence at the hearings, so as to conomize the sheriff's time as much as possible.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Buller Tells of a Conversation With Oom Paul.

Invalided Canadian Officers Ready For Service Again—Transport Idaho at Cape Verde Islands.

DURBAN, Natal, Oct. 20.— General Buller, speaking before an assemblage of his admirers today, said:

"In 1881 I met Mr. Kruger at O'Neill's farm, near Newcastle. He said: 'General, we don't like this peace.'

"I replied: 'Neither do I, because we have got nothing to stand upon. You think you have beaten us, but we know we can beat you.'

"Mr. Kruger rejoined: 'Well, general, I have seen that when two dogs fight and are separated they are never right until they have fought it out. We have fought it out and have come out on top: We shall be good friends because the top dog never takes advantage of his position.'"

CAPE TOWN, Oct. 21.— Lord Methuen has occupied Zeerust and captured numerous wagons, a large quantity of stores and many cattle and sheep.

TORONTO, Oct. 20.—The Telegram's special cable from London says: The following Canadian officers who have been ill in hospital were discharged on the 14th and are now on duty again: Lieut. J. D. Moodie, "C" squadron, Canadian Mounted Rifles, late inspector N. W. M. P.; Major V. A. S. Williams, "B" squadron, Canadian Mounted Rifles, late captain R. C. D.; Major J. A. G. Hudon, "C" battery, Royal Canadian Artillery, formerly major R. C. A.

HALIFAX, N. S., Oct. 19.—The transport Idaho, with the Canadian Regiment on board, arrived at Cape Verde Islands today, according to a despatch to the Commercial Cable office in this city, received at four o'clock.

Shipping men say that it will take the transport at least ten days to make the run to this port. The earliest date at which the transport can reach here will, therefore, be the evening of Monday, October 29th. It is quite probable she will not be here before the first of November.

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MONCTON.

Blair Dismisses Five First Class I. C. R. Mechanics,

Their Only Offence Being that They Did Not Vote for Hawke for Mayor—Emmerson Says He Can't Help Them.

MONCTON, Oct. 22.—An act of Mr. Blair that has given rise to much indignation here and should be resented by workingmen all over the dominion, was recently perpetrated in connection with the I. C. R. works here. Some weeks ago five of the best mechanics in the machine and car shops were notified that their services would not be required after the 27th of September. They asked for the reason of this dismissal, but neither their foremen, or the mechanical superintendent, or the general manager could give them any. They were assured that there was no complaint against them or their work, the only satisfaction they got was that the order of dismissal had come direct from the minister of railways, Mr. Blair. They asked for an investigation. Postmaster General Mulock and Fair Wages Commissioner O'Donoghue of Toronto were written to, and they gave the assurance than an investigation would be held, but it never came. The men could get no satisfaction from Mr. Blair. When ex-Premier Emmerson was nominated as the liberal candidate in this county to oppose Mr. Powell, who took such a prominent part in adjusting the Grand Trunk strike, the men went to him. Mr. Emmerson assured them that there was no complaint against them, and that he would have the matter adjusted. Several interviews with Mr. Emmerson followed. Finally, on Friday, an agent of Mr. Emmerson informed the men that nothing could be done for them, as Mr. Blair said it would be "a confession of weakness" on his part to reinstate them before the election. Mr. Emmerson at one of the interviews informed the men that their dismissal had been ordered at the request of the local liberal who had been defeated for the mayoralty in the last civic election. This aspirant for civic honors, Mr. Hawke, editor of the local liberal paper, had been instrumental in having the contest run on party lines, and he attributed his defeat to the Trades and Labor Union, which embraces many I. C. R. employes. One of the dismissed men was the president of the union, another the secretary, hence the animus. The men for their part disclaim any action on the part of the union and say that it is entirely non-political. The men dismissed are Murray Fleming, machinist, 28 years in the service; William Condon, machinist, 22 years in the service; Allen McDonald, painter, 14 years in the service; John McDonald, carpenter, 16 years in the service; Thornton Wells, machinist, 12 years in the service. Fleming, Condon and John McDonald entered the service as apprentices. They are among the best mechanics in the shops, and as citizens are above reproach. Fleming, who is president, and Allen McDonald, who is secretary-treasurer, have resigned from the labor union in order that they may take part in the campaign against the government that treats workingmen in this scandalous manner. Fleming, who was a delegate to the last general labor meeting in Montreal, is a capital speaker and will doubtless be heard from on the stump. He is popular among the men and as an index to their feeling in regard to the action of the government it may be stated that he had been nominated for the office of district secretary in the railway insurance association before he had received his notice of dismissal. The grits were determined to crush him and put up their strongest man, but Fleming was elected by a vote of 761 to 235.

It is not charged that the men dismissed were "offensive partizans" while in the service. It is not claimed that work was slack, as good mechanics are needed and some five or six hundred green hands have been taken on at various points within the last two or three months (no doubt in anticipation of the elections). Nor does Mr. Blair's poor excuse that it would be "a confession of weakness" to reinstate men unjustly dealt with just before an election, hold good, because within the last ten days he has reinstated an employe who has been under suspension for nearly a year on the serious charge of taking undue liberties with a female passenger in a Pullman car. The man who was reinstated had a political pull, of course. The truth is that the five honest, hard-working mechanics would not bow down to the grit ward heelers in everything and as the I. C. R. employes generally were showing a disposition to resent political interference, they were summarily dismissed for the purpose of coercing the whole staff.

CARLETON CO. ALL RIGHT.

BATH, N. B., Oct. 22.—Bath is all right. A rousing liberal conservative rally was held here this evening, the meeting being wild with enthusiasm. Col. Vince, J. C. Hartley, Q. C., barristers, of Woodstock, and F. H. Hale, the liberal conservative candidate, were the speakers, and W. W. Melville, chairman. Col. Vince showed up in plain, yet earnest manner, the broken pledges of the grits, and was applauded again and again. J. C. Hartley increased the enthusiasm by asking the audience if such a government as stuffed ballot boxes, controlled lists and supported such anti-British men as Tarte should receive their support. F. H. Hale was then called on, and as he took the platform the audience rose, cheering to the echo. "I'm the workingman's friend," he said, the people will show they believe it on Nov. 7th. Mr. Hale spoke in his usual forcible manner for about thirty-five minutes, holding the attention of the audience closely, defending his record in parliament, and severely arraigning the government for their actions during the last four years. The meeting closed with cheers for Mr. Hale and the singing of God Save the Queen.

BEST OF SACKVILLE

Held at North Saugus, Mass., on Charge of Murder.

The Headless Body of His Alleged Victim Found Floating in a Pond —Woman and Whiskey—No Strong Evidence Against the Accused.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

BOSTON, Oct. 22.—John C. Best, the farmer who is under arrest on suspicion of having murdered George Bailey, a farmer, of Break Heart Hill, North Saugus, about ten miles from Boston, is now locked up in the Essex county jail at Salem, no bail having been allowed by the court.

Best's home is in Sackville, N. B., where his father, mother and other relatives reside. His case will come up in the police court at Lynn on Tuesday, Oct. 30. Leonard Pratt of Boston and James E. Oldin of Lynn have been retained as counsel for the prisoner, although he has announced that he had but $2 in money in the world.

Bailey was manager of the Break Heart Hill farm, and was powerfully built. He was about 45 years of age, and belonged in Whitefield, Me. Best was his assistant. The latter is 35 years old, and considered a good worker, except that he was a victim of the drink habit. The night of Oct. 8 was the last time that Bailey was seen alive, but as he was interested in a young woman named Susan L. Young, formerly employed at the farm, the neighbors supposed he had gone to Wiscasset, Me., where the girl is at present. On the morning of Oct. 17 two young men while walking over a peculiar structure known as the floating bridge, over a deep black pond of the same name, in a wild, wooded section of North Saugus, discovered a salt sack containing some object floating in the water. The sack was fished out, and in it was found the headless and dismembered body of a man. Later the head and limbs were found in the pond by the police. The man had been murdered. He had been shot twice through the breast and the body chopped up with a large axe, the murderer afterwards taking it to the pond. This body of water is less than a mile from Break Heart Hill farm. As soon as the body was identified as that of Bailey, suspicion was fastened upon Best, and he was arrested. State Officer Neal is attempting to prove that the prisoner is the right man. It has been learned that Best was drunk on the night Bailey disappeared, and the officers think the murder was committed early the following morning.

The evidence against Best is not strong. It is shown that he and Bailey were not very friendly, and some think they quarrelled on account of Susan Young. Bailey had considerable money, but it is not known where he kept it and it cannot be found. The police also claim that Best burned some horse blankets, which they think were bespattered with blood, the day following the farmer's disappearance.

Best denies that he committed the murder. When questioned concerning some of his movements about Oct. 8, he admitted he was drunk and could not tell where he spent all of his time. He says that he does not know whether his folks in Sackville will assist him or not.

He was given a hearing in court on Saturday, but the case was continued for ten days.

JOHN SHERMAN DEAD.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—Hon. John Sherman, who for a period of 40 years occupied a prominent place in the legislative and administrative branches of public affairs in the United States, died here at 6.45 o'clock this morning of brain exhaustion. Death came to the aged sufferer peacefully after almost thirty-six hours of nearly complete unconsciousness. A number of relatives and friends who had assembled in Washington in response to summons were at the bedside when the end came. Funeral services over the remains will be held in this city and at Mansfield, Ohio. Interment will be in the family plot at that place and will occur, in all probability, on Thursday.

Secretary Sherman's demise occurred in his handsome home on K street.

John Sherman was born in Lancaster, Ohio, May 10, 1823. In 1844 he was admitted to the bar. He was elected to congress, where he took his seat Dec. 3, 1855. He was president of the first republican convention in Ohio. Mr. Sherman was a United States senator from 1861 to 1877, and again from 1881 to 1897. In 1880 he was a candidate for the presidency, James A. Garfield presenting his name at the national convention. A second time he was a candidate for chief executive, when in 1884 Joseph B. Foraker presented his name. The author of many important laws, he had long been known as an able statesman.

In 1897 President McKinley appointed him secretary of state, but soon after taking up the portfolio ill health compelled him to resign.

FREDERICTON.

FREDERICTON, Oct. 22.—The political campaign in this county goes briskly on. Both parties are busy stumping the county and excitement is keen. H. G. McLeod and A. D. Thomas held a splendid meeting in the interests of the conservative party at New Maryland Saturday evening, and at its conclusion former stalwart liberals came forward and signed Rev. Dr. McLeod's nomination paper. Dr. McLeod is putting forth every effort to secure the hall at Marysville for a meeting there by carrying the war into Africa. Up to date, however, he has received no answer to his application. It seems to be the general conservative opinion that Mr. Gibson will take care to keep the learned doctor out of his stronghold. R. D. Wilmot's nomination for Sunbury and Queens meets with approval in this section of the county.

Geo. Nowlan, engineer of Gibson cotton mill, died at his home at Marysville Saturday afternoon from inflammation. Deceased was 60 years of age, and had been connected with the mill from its establishment. A widow, three sons and six daughters survive him.

THE GROWING TIME

Of the Liberal-Conservative Party.

W. A. Killam, a Leading Merchant of Yarmouth, N. S. and a Life-Long Liberal, Abandons His Old Party.

Men Now in Opposition, Mr Killam Says, are the Real Friends of the Fishermen, and He Will Vote and Work For Them.

(Yarmouth Times.)

W. A. Killam, the well known vessel owner and commission merchant, has arrived at the conclusion that the men who are in power at Ottawa have broken their pledges and promises to the people and for that reason he has withdrawn his support from the liberal party. Mr. Killam for the past thirty years has taken a keen interest in matters political and always on the liberal side, never, as he informed the Times, having cast a vote against that party. For a life time he has been identified with the fishing industry in this and adjoining counties and, previous to the last general election, believed that the conservative party always stood in the way of the interests of fishermen. His shipments of fish to the United States are very large and during conservative rule the duty was one-half cent per pound, which, he says, came out of the pockets of the Canadian shippers. In his case the duty amounted to about $1,700 per year on halibut alone, which he considered a heavy tax. Believing the statement of liberal leaders that in the event of their obtaining control of the Canadian government they would at once secure better trade relations with the United States he continued to support them.

"THE TIME CAME,"

says Mr. Killam, "when the conservatives, who had been in power for eighteen years, were defeated. I then fully expected that my life-long political friends would secure for the fishermen of Nova Scotia a measure of relief, but in this I was disappointed. Instead of a reduction in the duty it was doubled, and I was called upon to pay $3,400 per year. I, with hundreds of others, believe that the liberal government should have made an attempt to redeem their promises, but, having watched carefully, I fail to see that in their several trips to Washington they made the slightest effort in our behalf."

"Have you any other reason for opposing your party?" asked the Times representative. "Yes, I have various reasons," answered Mr. Killiam. "I believe that in the granting of trap licenses certain sections did not receive fair play. Take the Sandford case for instance. Quite a number of residents of that district depend almost exclusively for their bread and butter upon their mackerel catch, but these people have been most unjustly, in my opinion, driven out of business. I have no desire to get into the newspapers, but you may say that I am absolutely disgusted with the way in which business is conducted by the present government and hereafter it is my intention to vote against any candidate they may nominate. I believe that promises made by a party in opposition should be redeemed when the opportunity is given to it to do so."

SAYS IT IS ABSURD.

Have you any objection to expressing an opinion respecting the bait freezer policy of the government?"

"None at all. My opinion is that there is nothing in it; it is simply absurd."

"Why?"

"I controlled the first freezer ever used in Nova Scotia. It had a capacity of sixty-five tons and it would have paid if shipping facilities had been as good as they are today. At the time I speak of there was no all-rail communication with the upper provinces and the Boston service was not what it is today. I remember the first year the freezer was in use I placed sixty tons of halibut in it, a part of which remained there for three years, on account of the lack of shipping facilities. Of course it is generally known that the bait business alone will not support freezers, they must do a business outside of that. One of my objections to the present scheme is that it provides for too many shareholders and in this, as in other enterprises, too many cooks spoil the broth. What is everybody's business is nobody's business."

WON'T BENEFIT FISHERMEN.

"You believe then that the present policy of the government will be of little benefit to our fishermen?"

"That is my firm belief, and I will go further and say that in twelve months the freezers will have been forgotten in the province."

"You are aware, Mr. Killam, that there is an election to take place in Canada in a few weeks?"

"Yes, I have heard so. I wish it distinctly understood that I am not under the influence or control of any clique in this town or country, or for that matter in any other place. I am going to cast my vote and use what little influence I may possess for the benefit of the fishermen of this county and in doing so I will state frankly that I believe that the men who are now in opposition are the ones who should be placed at the head of affairs, and if I can assist in bringing that about I shall be satisfied."

SHEFFIELD.

Home From England With His Bride—A Farmer's Death from Cancer.

SHEFFIELD, Sunbury Co., Oct. 18.—A large shipment of beef cattle was made last evening at McGowan's wharf for the St. John market. Mr. Kain was the purchaser.

The David Weston was so heavily loaded on her last down trip that she was obliged to leave a heavy freight on McGowan's wharf for the Victoria last evening.

The Rev. Mr. Harvey, officiating clergyman of the Congregational church of Sheffield, after a few months' absence on a trip to England, G. B., his native land, returned last Friday with his happy and pretty bride. He preached last Sabbath morning and afternoon.

Ward Barker, the village blacksmith, and family are rejoicing over the advent of their second born this week, a son.

The enterprising young people of Maquapit lake have had two quite successful entertainments of late by which they realized $20 to be used in repairs on their school house.

On account of the sudden and unexpected rise of water much of the lumber rafted at the boom at Lincoln and Maugerville got away from its fastening and came down the river. Three tug steamboats and a large gang of men were at work all day Sunday and the first of this week on the islands in and opposite Lower Sheffield making their lumber safe.

A man by the name of Simms, aged 50 years, sold out his interest in a saw mill in Blackville, Northumberland Co., and came with his family to Lower Burton and bought a farm there last spring. Last spring he was troubled with what was pronounced a cancer on the liver, and was taken to the Victoria hospital, Fredericton, as told he was too late for doing them. He came home and died, leaving a helpless family to mourn their loss. His mortal remains were interred in the Upper Gagetown cemetery last Sunday, the Rev. O. P. Brown officiating at the house, church and grave.

Thomas Bridges of Tilley's Landing sold twenty head of young oxen recently to a York county firm to feed through for Easter.

SPAIN'S DIFFICULTY.

MADRID, Oct. 22.—The present crisis in the cabinet is an outcome of the conflict between the civil and military elements. Since their return from Cuba, Generals Weyler and Linares have gathered around them a group in defence of the interests of the army, and, in spite of the budget's economies, which have been universally demanded, they aim to reconstruct the army and navy. The first step in the direction of this plan was to proclaim the independence of the minister of war among the members of the cabinet, and Gen. Linares appointed Gen. Weyler to be captain general of Madrid as part of this policy. Gen. Weyler, who recently adhered to the liberal party, which he hoped eventually would enable him to get the portfolio of war, announced that he accepted the post as a military man and not as a politician. Nevertheless, it is thought his present action will cause him to be abandoned by the liberals. In the meantime Gen. Weyler retains his post, saying he was nominated by the government of the Queen Regent, and apparently he believes no one dares remove him.

Gen. Azcarranga is seeking to form a conservative cabinet, in which several of Senor Silvela's colleagues will have portfolios.

AN OLD LUTHER BIBLE.

A very old German Bible has just been discovered at Wischreihe in the possession of an aged widow named Stegma. The Bible was printed in the year 1544 by Hans Lufft, at Wittenberg. This rare copy undoubtedly belongs to one of the earliest editions of Luther's Bible, as the Reformer's first German Bible appeared in print in 1534—only ten years earlier. The copy not only contains Luther's prefaces to several of the Biblical books, but also numerous marginal notes by Luther upon the Bible text.

The man who always agrees with you is not necessarily a fool. He may want to find out how little you think he knows.

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