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## SUM'RSIDE TOWN MEETING

### The Late Clerk's Transactions Discussed.

### DID OFFICIALS ASSIST HIS ESCAPE?

**The Chairman's Statements—How the Defalcations Were Discovered—The Auditors' Work—Mr. McLeod Calls for Explanations—Mr. Hunt Wants Proof—Mr. Bell Asks Questions—Messrs. D. Rogers, Martin, McQuarrie, McNally, Coun. Wood and Others Speak—A Hot Discussion and Meeting Breaks up.**

SUMMERSIDE, Feb. 15.—(Special)—The civic meeting this evening was a very large one, the Market Hall being filled to the doors. Sheriff Gaffney presided and Mr. S. M. Beat acted as secretary.

Mr. A. C. Rogers, Chairman of the Town Council, was the first speaker. He presumed that the financial statement for the town was in the hands of the citizens. This statement notwithstanding the defalcation, was, so far as revenue and expenditure were concerned, correct. He explained the different items in the statement. In reference to the expenditure on the streets he said that repeated experiments had proved conclusively that the soft stone heretofore used was a waste of money. He would recommend that Water Street at least be taken in hand in the near future and put in a condition that would be permanent. In reference to the Fire Department, the chief of that department had told him that it had never been in a more efficient condition than at present. He returned in passing to the repairs done to the sidewalk, the new sewer on Water Street and the new library room fitted up by the present Council. He also explained the writing off of certain worthless assets and stated that

after providing for sinking funds of debentures, etc., and making new provision for all necessary expenditure, they carried to capital account over \$2,000, which, out of a revenue of a little over \$12,000, he thought, showed economy on the part of the Council. He next touched on the matter of the defalcations by the late Town Clerk and their discovery. The auditors had concluded what he believed to have been the most thorough audit that had ever been made on the town books and found them correct. Mr. E. P. Sivart, one of the auditors, in talking over the matter with him, mentioned incidentally that the current account and arrears of assessment were unaccountably large, and although the finances had been economically looked after, these accounts dragging from year to year made a financial burden that the town had no right to bear. The names of some of those in arrears having been learned, his suspicions were aroused and investigation followed. The investigation convinced him that the funds were being misappropriated. He accused the Clerk of stealing. The Clerk confessed to having used about \$700 of the town's funds but was prepared to make up the amount. A list was furnished by the Clerk purporting to be a full statement of the defalcation. This was found incorrect and in looking more fully into the matter it was found that the deficit was very much in excess of what he represented it to be. His (the Chairman's) next care was to secure the town. The manner in which it was done would be explained by his legal advisers, Messrs. Martin and McQuarrie. In reference to the report that he allowed the Clerk to escape, he admitted that believing the town to be fully secured against any loss and out-of-consideration for the Clerk's family and friends, he made no attempt to detain him. In conclusion, he would make the following suggestion: First, to do away with the antiquated system of book-keeping at present used in the town office; Second, at a certain time in each year to publish a list of those in arrears; Third, to abolish the system of taking promissory notes for taxes or other town debts.

Mr. R. C. McLeod was the next speaker. He was pleased to see so harmonious a meeting and to know also that the Council had lived so happily together during the past year. By the Chairman's statement it is learned that the defalcation which is the most important item before this meeting, had spread over several years past. He would like to hear an explanation from members of previous Councils, whom these charges concerned.

Councillors Grady and Sobey each made a few remarks.

Mr. Richard Hunt next took the floor. He was sorry that he had to appear in this matter. He had heard that certain insinuations had been made in reference to his regime. He had admitted that the deficit of \$800 charged against 1897 might be correct but he refused to accept it without further proof than what had been given. He agreed with the suggestion of the Chairman, and in fact he himself had suggested it at a former meeting, that the names of defaulters be published in the annual financial statement.

Mr. J. H. Bell asked first, what the result of the investigation had been in reference to the defalcation? second, what securities the Town Council had taken from the late Clerk? third, what proportion of default is chargeable to 1897 and 1898?

The chairman replied that owing to the manner in which the accounts had been manipulated it was difficult to give a definite answer to the latter question. As far as the investigation had gone the total deficit is \$3,872.51. Of this amount about \$1,400 is chargeable to 1897. \$817.20 of this latter amount was found had been paid in and had never appeared on the books at all. Some defalcation had also been found in the accounts for 1896. The balance of the default was in cash short after the last audit, between \$700 and \$800. We found that he had borrowed money from his friends to make up this shortage. After the audit was over it became necessary to reimburse these friends. He (the Chairman) was sorry that in many cases the reimbursement had not been made, he himself being a sufferer to the extent of about \$100.

In answer to Mr. Bell's second question the town holds bonds in \$1000 each from Mr. W. H. Brown and Mr. W. H. Manson for each of the years 1897 and 1898.

Mr. K. J. Martin being called upon, explained that besides these bonds the town had secured a judgment and mortgage on real estate for \$1000.

Mr. John T. McNally said the town is in a deplorable condition. He was doubtful if we could realize on any of the securities. It had been rumoured that the Town Council had assisted the

employee, a policeman, to assist the Clerk to escape affected the strength of the bonds?

Mr. McQuarrie knew no reason why these bonds should not be collected. They had been given for the purpose of recouping the town for any possible defalcation on the part of the Clerk. The mortgage was a second one on a farm said to be worth from \$3,500 to \$4,000 and he could see no reason why it should not be good for the amount claimed. (The first mortgage is for \$1,200.)

Mr. Martin said, in reference to the Chief of Police helping the defaulter to escape, it was ridiculous to suppose that even if the whole Town Council and the Fire Department thrown in had helped the Clerk to get away that the town would lose the amount.

R. C. McLeod said it seemed to him that the poor Town Clerk had been made a scape-goat for more than he was guilty of. Some of his friends had stated to him (Mr. McLeod) that the defalcations were not as large as they had been represented to be. The charge had been made publicly that the Council had effected the escape of the late Clerk in order to avoid unpleasant revelations. He believed that he should be brought back and given a chance to clear matters up. His own impression was that there is a disposition on the part of those interested in this matter to cover up the real condition of affairs. To clear the matter up for the sake of his family, for the sake of the Town Council, he would advise bringing him back.

Mr. D. Rogers thought that Mr. Bell and Mr. McLeod had made mean insinuations against the Councillors and Auditors. He thought when Mr. McLeod charged that the Council had helped him away it was unfair and unmanly.

R. C. McLeod—"I can prove it. He was harbored by one of the Councillors and taken to Cape Traverse by an employee of the Council."

D. Rogers—"Name him? Make the statement openly!"

Coun. Wood—"I believe Mr. McLeod refers to me. The late Clerk was in my office the night he left—but I did not know it and only found it out afterwards. When he went away we supposed that there was a deficit of only \$1,700 and that was covered by securities."

At this stage a number of speakers took a hand while those who were not speakers started for home and the meeting broke up.

## N.B. ELECTION ROW

### Candidate Committed at Police Court.

### The Gaspesia Sighted—West Huron Election—Digby's Fire Loses—Quebec Board of Trade and the Fast Line—Rum's Victim—Another M. P. Receives His Reward.

ST. JOHN, N. B. Feb. 15.—(Special)—Police Magistrate Ritchie to-day committed for trial William J. Dean one of the county Conservative candidates on a charge of criminally libeling Hon. A. T. Duan, Surveyor General.

Dean made a declaration that James Kelly and Fred Watson offered him \$1,000 to retire from the election and Dunn sues because in his affidavit Dean affirms that he told one of the bribers that "if the people knew as much about Dunn as I do, not a man in the county would vote for him."

Thomas Burns, aged 25 years, was found in a snow bank dead from exposure. He had been drinking.

GODERICH, Ont. Feb. 15.—(Special)—Editor Holmes, (Liberal) and Robert McLean, Goderich (Conservative) were nominated to-day for the vacant Commons seat in West Huron. Prominent public men of both parties are taking part in the fight. The riding went Liberal last time.

DIGBY, N. S. Feb. 15.—(Special)—The late fire destroyed 22 houses. The total loss will reach \$75,000; insurance about \$20,000.

HALIFAX, February 15.—A telegram from Meat Cove, C. B., says: "Gaspesia was seen this morning steaming around the west end of the Magdalen Islands. She was in loose ice and making good headway."

QUEBEC, Feb. 15.—(Special)—The Board of Trade is urging the government to carry out Sir Wm. Vanhorde's scheme for a first class trans-Atlantic steamship service.

Mr. Beausoleil, Liberal M. P. for Berthier, will be made, post master of Montreal in place of Dansereau, resigned.

Clerk to make good his escape. It was even said that the Chief of Police had driven him to Cape Traverse at night and put him on board one of the ice-boats.

Mr. Bell again asked, what proof there was in the late speaker's statement that the town, through its officials had connived at the escape of the defaulter? And he would ask the town's solicitors how far the action would affect the securities?

The Chairman stated in reply that in reference to the late Clerk being taken to Cape Traverse by the Chief of Police, he believed this was true. However the policeman was present and could answer for himself. He further explained that the bonds for 1895 and 1897 for \$1,000 each are binding on each of the bondsmen.

Mr. David Rogers thought there was a good deal of talk about nothing. The Council were to be commended for the prompt action they had taken in taking what securities they could get in the interests of the town. He did not think the present or any former Council could be held blameable for the dishonesty of their Clerk. He had covered up his tracks so carefully that it was difficult to trap him and the present Council deserve a great deal of credit for having found him out. The sensible thing now to do is to make the best of a bad situation.

Mr. Bell still wanted to know how far the action of the town in allowing

## FRENCH BLUSTER

### Active Preparations Making For War.

MANILA, Feb. 15.—(Special)—All is quiet to-day. The Filipinos have been compelled to retire from around Iloilo.

Among the killed was a cousin of Aguinaldo.

HALIFAX, Feb. 15.—J. Funa, a member of the Filipino Junta, is here and will sail in a few days for Liverpool. He says that war will certainly go on while the Americans remain in the Philippines.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—(Special)—The Hamburg-American S. S. line will run seven ships between Halifax and Hamburg from April to June, carrying immigrants, mostly Galicians and Hungarians, who will settle in Canada.

The Chronicle and News express the hope that at to-night's session of parliament Balfour will be able to announce the resignation of those cabinet ministers who are directors of companies.

The Toulon correspondent of the Daily Mail, in remarking upon the extraordinary activity at the arsenal there, and generally observable in the French naval works, says:—

"It is believed that Mr. Lockroy, the Minister of Marine, expects war with Great Britain within two years, and it is notorious that a war with England is being preached in official circles in Paris."

Troops are being poured into Tunis, Corsica, and Algeria, and war material is being sent to all the colonies.

The French officers openly boast that they will sweep the British fleet out of the Mediterranean.

CHICAGO MARKETS.

CHICAGO, February 15.—[Special]—The following are the closing rates:—

Feb. wheat, — corn, 35½; oats, 27½; pork, 9.75.

May wheat, 72½; corn, 36½; oats, 28½; pork, 10.02.

July wheat, 71½; corn 37½; oats, 26½; pork —

Bentley's Liment the modern Pain Cure  
All sizes, 10c.

Manufacturers' Exhibit at the Paris Exposition.

Brantford, Feb. 12.—Mr. J. G. Jardine agent for the Dominion Government, is in the city interviewing a few leading manufacturers relative to the making of exhibits for the Paris Exposition of 1900. He states that the Massey-Harris Company and the Cockshutt Plough Company have already applied for space, and that the former, in order to keep even with the American makers of agricultural implements, who are contemplating something of the kind, may erect a building of its own just outside the Champ de Mars. The space at the disposal of the Canadian Government is very limited. It was at first given but 12,000 feet of the space allotted to Great Britain and her colonies, and this was afterwards increased to 15,000 feet. In addition, however, Canada has been allotted 24,000 feet out of the 36,000 feet in the British Colonial Building.

SORES ON LIMBS  
Two Years. Had Eaten into Bone.  
Wore Slippers All the Time.  
Doctors, Medicines no Help.  
Cured by CUTICURA.

I had sores on my limbs, around my ankles, for two years, so bad that I had to wear slippers nearly all the time, for the sores had eaten into the bone. I tried doctors, and a good many things, but nothing seemed to help me. I saw CUTICURA remedies so highly recommended, I determined to try them. Three bottles of CUTICURA RESOLVENT, and one cake CUTICURA SOAP cured me. MRS. WM. WINTERS, Media, Kan.

CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the new blood purifier and greatest of humors cures, purifies the blood and circulating fluids of HUMOR GENES, and thus removes the cause, while warm baths with CUTICURA SOAP and gentle ointment with CUTICURA OINTMENT, greatest of emollients, skin cures, cleanse the skin and scalp of crusts and scales, allay itching, burning, and inflammation, soothe and heal, thus completing the cure.

Sold throughout the world. For Sale D. J. G. Coy., Sole Props., Boston. See "How to Cure Eczema." CUTICURA SOAP AND HAIR BEAUTIFIER BY CUTICURA SOAP.

## ROYAL Baking Powder

Made from pure cream of tartar.

Safeguards the food against alum.

Alum baking powders are the greatest menacers to health of the present day.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

## TO CURE TOOTHACHE IN A MINUTE

Use NERVOL. One application cures; if not, your money back. Equally good for Neuralgia and Headache. 25c. at all Drugists.

# Odd Lines...

Remnant Sale at Stock-taking of Boots and Shoes placed on counters at 25 per cent discount. Come and see them. Now is your chance.

## Goff Bros.

NOTE—Men's Rubbers 32 cents. Women's 22c.

GOFF BROS

...GO TO...

## HASZARD & MOORE

...FOR...

## BOOKS AND STATIONERY

## SURPRISE SOAP

Is so good, so economical, you really can't afford to be without it.

A pure hard Soap. 5 cents a cake.

Your grocer sells it. If not, change your grocer.

## ODDS AND ENDS STATIONERY BLANK BOOKS

Many lines that we do not intend to keep in future. See them on large TABLE CENTRE of our STORE.

5 Quire Pkgs of Good Note Paper for 10 to 15 cents a package.

Writing Tablets 5 to 10 cents each, worth 20c. A lot of Blank Books Paperettes, &c. at less than Cost.

25 Gross of Good Pens at 25 cents per gross regular price 50 cents, and dozens of other Snaps for early purchasers.

## GEO. CARTER & CO.