

POOR DOCUMENT

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The Evening Times-Star

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., APRIL 12, 1926.

WHAT SHALL THE HARVEST BE?

The citizens today are electing three members of the Common Council, a Mayor and two Commissioners. Judged by conditions about the polling booths this morning the vote will be light. Only a little more than half of the taxpayers have paid their 1925 taxes, and therefore are not eligible. That is a very heavy percentage of civic defaulters, though in that respect there is little change as compared with the last year or two. There is no one particular outstanding or burning issue to be fought over, and that fact induces apathy.

Still, three members of the Council constitute a majority, and therefore this election is fought with some very interesting possibilities. What shall the harvest be? Shall we be better off when the votes are counted—or worse?

Looking over the field of candidates, and having in mind their records in civic affairs and in connection with their personal occupations, it is apparent that a wise choice today on the part of the people might improve matters materially at City Hall. It is equally clear that an unwise choice might weaken a civic administration which has not been remarkable for its strength, vision, or efficiency. The old machine has done fairly well in many respects, but it has been somewhat lacking in constructive policy, and it has had altogether too much respect for the status quo. It might be said that there has been a certain poverty as respects new ideas, though that may be due partly to the fact that some men get buried in routine and so have no time, or even inclination, to break new ground, however necessary that process is if Saint John is to establish a reasonable time-table of progress and live up to it.

Whatever the voters do today, we need look for no civic revolution. The best we can hope for is that the Council, when supplemented by today's voters, will turn its thoughts resolutely upon the various civic problems which are pressing for solution, some of which are of very great importance, and get on with the job with more wisdom and more ginger than have been in evidence for a long time at City Hall.

The new Mayor, if he has the capacity and the desire to serve the citizens wisely and faithfully, can do much. He is but one man in a Council of five, but if he has proposals to make which are obviously sound and which promise to help Saint John, such proposals will be easily recognized by the public as containing merit, and it would be unlikely in such circumstances that the Commissioners would hesitate to give them approval. Sometimes in the past when a Mayor had ideas and encountered opposition or blocking tactics in his own official family at City Hall, he appealed over the heads of the obstructing Commissioners to the people, by means of public addresses on appropriate occasions and by presenting his views through the Press. That avenue of advance not infrequently has proved both necessary and productive.

The new Mayor will be confronted by several rather disturbing factors. The controllable revenue is small. Interest charges and the school money absorb so high a proportion of the revenue that there is scarcely enough left to turn around on. At election time there is always fear of extravagance and inefficiency in the departments, but some of the cities, if they were in City Hall tomorrow, would find that to combine progress with economy in present conditions is a rather tough proposition, however desirable the objective.

There is that matter of unpaid taxes. The new Mayor will be asking himself—has already asked himself, doubtless—how it is that so many people fail to pay their taxes; and his examination of the list of those in default will show him that there are a great many who can pay, a great many who could pay readily, yet who do not pay until they have lost their right to vote, who, indeed, postpone payment to the last day possible, even under pressure. He will find the number of those who are wholly unable to pay, who could not be expected to pay, far smaller than he had supposed, unless he has given special study to this angle of civic administration.

The new Mayor, let us hope, will be a man who is not afraid to break some new ground, who realizes the possibilities which lie before Saint John at this hour, who knows that while nothing revolutionary is needed, Saint John should be a leader in the forward movement which is gradually taking effective form in this province, and indeed in the Maritime Provinces.

The financial situation of this city is by no means alarming; the reverse is the case. Drastic economy at this time—economy for economy's sake—neither wise nor necessary. An effort should be made, of course, to get a dollar's worth for every dollar spent, but Saint John, now that business prospects are improving, must keep in mind the fact that the best way to de-

with high overhead expenses is to get more business. To do that, existing possibilities must be capitalized, boldly if prudently, but consistently and through carefully designed and steadily sustained constructive policies.

What shall the harvest be? It is announced that Parliament will discuss Maritime Province problems. From that discussion we may learn how many of the Maritime Province M. P.'s place party before country, and how many place country before party.

"Former Premier Veniot of New Brunswick," says the Montreal Gazette, "is in agreement with Premier Buxton in deploring talk of secession in the Maritime Provinces. The word secession," says Mr. Veniot, "should not be found in the vocabulary of any Canadian, much less in a resident of the Maritimes." This is good sense as well as patriotism. Whatever may be the present economic disabilities of these provinces, secession would aggravate rather than cure them.

Luther Burbank, the horticultural wizard, has made the long traverse. Some weeks before his death he started a world-wide controversy—or rather revived one—by saying that he could not believe in life after death. The dispatches say of him that he did not in any way modify his views before "the end" came. Whether or not he has modified them since will be a matter of further controversy, and on this point we may expect to hear from Sir Oliver Lodge, one of the scientists whose intelligence service is asserted to extend into that "undiscovered" country from whose bourn no traveler returns. Burbank was true to truth. He could not be traitor to it. He could not ignore the convictions at which he arrived after pondering upon certain questions, including existence after death. His investigations and discoveries were of almost priceless value. He performed near-miracles in the realm of fruits and flowers; but he must often have thought that the most wonderful machine imaginable was man himself—man that "doth make his life by bread only." He did not believe in old John Tillotson (1630-1694) that "if God were not a necessary Being of himself, he might almost seem to be made for the use and benefit of men." He did not believe, as was said by another, that if there were no God man would have had to create one. He did not believe that life, like space and time, is infinite. Now, in all probability, he knows.

Odds and Ends

A Moral for the Maritimes

(HAL CHRISTIE)

Once Adolphus Proctor, who was sleeping in the slime, Awoke and something told him it was long past dinner time. So he fumbled in the crevice where his nourishment was placed— "Two was one," but his brother John, looked fast about the waist.

And what did old mother Proctor do? She first spanked little John, But not as hard as Adolph thought she should. And "Dolph he learned a lesson Labeled, 'Compe-tit-on.' 'If you're sleepy you are apt to lose your food.'"

By a sluggish Latin river rose a city walled and fair. The men were husky, but they hadn't any girls there. So they issued invitations, "Bridal and dancing—bring your wives and you know the tale. The trawling Sabine menfolk lost their lives."

And what did the widow ladies do? Well, nobody says they squealed. And the Romans learned what married life portends. While the cynic chuckled grimly, "Keep your weather optics peeled, 'To watch the chaps who masquerade as friends.'"

For the Maritimes the moral of this quiet moral song is, "To get a thief a spanking only partly rights a wrong. Don't 'Blame it on the Government' nor 'Leave it all to George.' 'You've got to work a stomach-pump to make a man disgorge.'"

For what can anyone do for us, Till our lethargy we lift, Till we fight from hell to breakfast for our Rights? Be they nuptial or Provincial— And when Hellenes bring a gift, Just warn the sentry keep awake o' nights? Wake, watch and work—or whistle for our Rights!

Albanian President Powerful. Under the new Albanian constitution, the powers of the president are large. He has unlimited power in the veto and he can appoint and dismiss members of the senate, the others being elected. He also can appoint the president of the senate and that officer becomes president of the republic in case that official is absent or incapacitated.

A MAN with a family of three sons trying to make a rate contract with his barber.

A ROLLING stone gathers momentum.

Just Fun

HIS TIME COMING

"WELL, sir," asked the musician, "what do you think of my compositions?"

"In all probability," replied the critic, "they will be played long after Beethoven and Wagner are forgotten."

"Really?"

"Yes, but not before,"—Christian Science Monitor.

COLLEGE does a man good—a girl does him better.

WARD—Your wife dresses well, why don't you?

Shoup—That's why!

IT IS ESTIMATED that the world's coal supply will give out in less than 5,000,000 years, but the scientists who make the estimate haven't made any allowance for the millions of coal strikes that will occur in the meantime.

BIG dope plot frustrated! Cop arrests cold with a bottle of quinine.

FIRST Flea: Where will you send little Gerald when he grows up?

Second Flea: Oh, I suppose he will go to the dogs like his father.

A CATASTROPHE is something that happens to you. When it happens to the other fellow it is an accident.

CASH, rash and smash are triplets that go together and rhyme together.

THE salesman who stays on the firing line seldom gets fired.

TOO many folks wait till pay day to ask the price.

POOR man! If he marries too soon he can't keep up his wife; if he marries too late he can't keep up with her.

A METHODIST Bishop is a man who sometimes puts the dis in a preacher's appointment.

MARY'S little hen

But she was very queer

She laid like fun when eggs were cheap

And quit when they were dear.

NOBODY knows everything. Those who can name the members of the cabinet probably can't name the six cabinet hitters.

"THAT'S enough out of you," said the kidnapper, as she moved on to the next row.

Other Views

INSTALLMENT BUYING.

(The Abilene Reporter.)

You wouldn't think it, perhaps, but installment selling has reached the stupendous sum of five billion dollars annually in this country. The United States chamber of commerce is authority for that statement. It has been conducting a survey of domestic distribution. And, before you hold up your nose at the figure, remember that this is the installment plan, few families could afford an automobile. One acceptance of a paper exclusively has handled over half a billion dollars' worth of such paper in the last seven years. For 1925 its loss ratio was only .012 per cent. Every year it estimates that one and one-fourth billion dollars' worth of motor cars, washing machines, vacuum cleaners, phonographs, furniture, pianos, jewelry and radio apparatus are sold on the installment plan. When a man goes to a merchant and buys a car, it is hardly worth while to try to stop it. It has arrived, whether it's good for business and business' customers or not. Not long ago somebody asserted that 85 per cent. of all automobiles are sold on the installment plan—"deferred payments," as some call it. The installment plan has been the salvation of the motor car industry. Without it, relatively few families could buy a motor car. How many persons in your block could not get down and pay cash for an automobile? Many people who could pay all cash prefer to accept the deferred payment plan. It is true, but a vast majority of motor car owners could never own a car if they had to pay for it all in a wad. The installment plan is invading all lines of business. It may not be good for the country, and then again it may be good for it. It is here, and here to stay, at any rate.

WHO'S WHO IN THE DAYS NEWS

W. CAMERON FORBES

TWO million dollars are being sought by the former governor of the Philippines, W. Cameron Forbes, to educate the children of American fathers and Kanaka mothers. Many of these unrecognized children are the sons and daughters of American soldiers. There are 18,000 children of American blood in the islands and 4,000 of these are too young to shift for themselves.

Forbes is now chairman of the American Guardian Association which is working in harmony with the present Governor-General Leonard Wood.

Forbes is 65 and a graduate of Harvard University. In 1904 he was made a member of the Philippine commission and secretary of commerce and police in the islands. He became vice-governor in 1908 and governor-general a year later.

He occupied this post for four years then resigned. In 1921 the late President Warren G. Harding sent him to the Philippines to investigate conditions there.

Forbes is a member of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology corporation, trustee of Carnegie Institute of Washington, D. C., president of the Boston Society of Natural History and honorary president of the China Society of America.

Fellows In Misery



—The Western Mail (Cardiff.)

POEMS I LOVE

"After Love," by Arthur Symonds.

I DO NOT think this English poet has been appreciated as he should long since have been. He is better known, perhaps, as a critic and as a translator from the French than as a writer of exquisite lyric verse.

His two volumes of poems contain among the best of the moderns; yet somehow he remains in semi-obscurity. He has never been sensational, and most of his work is marked by a special quality of quietness. Yet it is a bribe to the same mood, and he will not fail to be richly rewarded.



HUMAN JUDGEMENTS

A NOTED politician who is somewhat of a scholar, says the secret of his success is founded on a saying he found in a work of one of the Greek philosophers: "Intelligence is invisible to the man who has not U. S."

That saying explains this peculiar world of ours.

Comparatively few persons are capable of appreciating the value of men who lower above the masses like Albert Einstein, Thomas Hardy, George Brandes, to name a few, and they are given none of the popular respect and adoration that is showered upon Billy Sunday, Jack Dempsey, Babe Ruth, Gladys Grey, the author of "Thanks for the Buggy Ride," and any movie star.

Timely Views On World Topics

GILBERT FRANKKAU

British Author and Publicist, in an interview in U. S.

THREE generations from now there won't be any talk about two sexes. We are inching nearer and nearer equal citizenship.

I have no doubt but that we are developing a very much higher type of woman and that we are developing a really courageous woman. All this talk about the modern woman does not exist. The modern woman does not exist. The Victorian woman has always wanted her freedom and now that she has it, she doesn't know how to use it. That's the most significant thing about the English woman. The women of today have few secrets and few sins.

With this release of thought, woman is working her way toward co-partnership and equal functions. In England, we have found that the woman's vote is anti-socialistic because socialism is the death of the individual, the death of progress and the death of that thing that may be found in all women—the trust that their children will be better off than they are.

And woman knows instinctively that socialism wouldn't help her or her children and that she wouldn't have any place in the socialist state. She knows that the women in Russia have simply been put back in their cages and that there is no such thing as a home—as

FOLEY'S PREPARED FIRECLAY FOR LINING YOUR OWN STOVE

Sold By Hardware Dealers.

The Very Idea!

By Hal Cockburn

IN THE OPEN

IT'S fun to go down to a small country town, where people are still livin' sanely. It's really a treat, when you lie down a street where restlessness predominates, mainly.

You're filled with surprise, when you full realize, that peace and real quiet exist. To get far away, for a week or a day, from cities—you know what you've missed.

It makes you feel sure that air is much purer in hamlet spots, out of the way. You sense the real pity, that every big city holds freshness and saneness at bay.

There isn't the wear and the madness of fear in small towns where wise folk reside. There's no business rattle. They're not packed like cattle. They're living—and working, outside.

Like nature? Well, listen—that's just what you're missing—the best thing this world has to give. Hop off, on vacation, at some small town station. Just loaf for a while man—and live!

Middle west farmer boasts a

cow with one wooden leg. Hidy,

we've eaten that kind of steak.

It's easy to go to the head of the class, when you're "in a class by yourself."

LAWYER—I do—time!

FABLES IN FACT

SPUNNY HOW EASY SOME MEN CAN GET IN WRONG PERIOD FOR INSTANCE COMMA I HAVE IN MIND THE WIFE WHO SUDDENLY SHOUTED COMMA QUOTATION MARK OH COMMA A BIG HAS JUST FLOWN INTO MY MOUTH PERIOD WHAT SHALL I DO QUESTION MARK QUOTATION MARK AND THE POOR HUSBAND REMARKED COMMA QUOTATION MARK KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT PERIOD QUOTATION MARK

DINNER STORIES

A GERMAN who had been severely and painfully stepped on by a burly Irishman who plowed his way through the crowded car, said: "Mine friend, know that mine feet was meant to be walked on, but dot privilege belongs to me."

AS THE train neared the city the passengers straightened up in their seats and began to gather together their belongings. The colored porter approached the jovial-faced gentleman, saying with a smile:

"Shall I brush you off, sah?"

"No," he replied, "I prefer to get off in the usual manner."

HULLO! What is the matter with your wife?" said a man to his neighbor, who was noted for his fast horses. "I see she has her hand in a sling. I suppose it's that new trotter of yours. I saw her out with it yesterday, and I thought no good would come of it. Reckless driving, I suppose, eh?"

"Yes," was the reply, "reckless driving—but not of the horse."

"What then?"

"A nail."

The coming of the heating season a lot of folks are wondering what to do in case of seasickness. Don't worry—you'll do it.

DISTINCTION

that quality most desired by the well dressed miss or woman, is paramount in these new



Of plain or brocade bengaline in fawns, brown or black, they feature a narrow band of squirrel about the collar, some show gathered sides, new gathered sleeves. Then there are straightline models that are entirely different with their clever set in sides and novelty trimmings.

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(And there is a lesson in this for you.)

Back and forth across the wide Atlantic these great modern ocean liners rush a score of times a year, their palatial saloons and cabins fitted out with the last word in modern comfort. Naturally the wear and tear on the decoration of these speeding ships is very considerable. Many of the finest ships afloat are decorated throughout with Sherwin-Williams Products. Their interiors always present a fresh, clean appearance; the buffeting of the wild Atlantic storms leave little discernible imprint on their Sherwin-Williams protected surface.

The Liner and the House

What is good for the ocean liner is good for your home. You are just as anxious to protect your home from the weather, to keep it sound, to keep its value high, and to keep it looking spick and span.

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Sherwin-Williams Paints are pure—absolutely. They are free of grit or lumps, no impurities. Even a novice can do a good painting job with them—such as a floor, odd furniture, a radiator perhaps—it lays so evenly, so smoothly.

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Write for "Household Guide"

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