

POOR DOCKET

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THE COUNCIL WILL PROCEED.

Mayor McLellan and Commissioners Wigmore, Bullock and Frink approved of the policy set forth in the campaign that the civic power commission should be entirely independent of City Hall. Commissioner Thornton stood out for an audit of all accounts by the city controller. He agreed with every other feature of the policy for civic distribution of hydro, including the appointment of a power commission. The difference on one point between him and the rest of the council was not of sufficient importance to be permitted to wreck the whole hydro project. Those who oppose civic ownership, along with the New Brunswick Power Company and its friends, no doubt hoped this result would follow, but they are disappointed. Mayor McLellan, in an interview published today, declares that "no question of an audit is going to prevent the policy of St. John from securing the benefits of Musquash power at the least possible cost to the consumer."

His worship takes the broad view, in which his colleagues and the citizens will concur, that progress is not to be blocked by disputes over minor details. There is no occasion whatever for heroics in behalf of the public interest, which can only be served by carrying out the policy of getting hydro-electric power to the people at cost. This is the declared policy of the city council.

THE RUSSIAN PROBLEM.

The situation in Genoa in regard to Russia lends interest to the attitude of the United States, which is not taking part in the Genoa conference but is regarded as a factor in the final settlement of Russian affairs. Secretary Hughes has steadfastly refused in behalf of the American government to recognize the Soviet government of Russia. Last week a delegation of women urged that full recognition be granted to the Russian Soviet republic and other republican carved out of old Russia. Of Secretary Hughes' reply, Bradstreet's says—

"The secretary pointed out that the interest of the United States in the people of Russia has been manifested in the most unmistakable manner, and that there is no disposition here to interfere with the Russian people in working out their own destiny although there have been organized efforts on the part of the Soviet regime to interfere in the domestic affairs of other peoples. He further directed attention to the fact that there are no legal obstacles to trade with Russia, and that the hindrances that do exist are due to the situation in Russia itself, which is in the control of those who dominate its affairs. Russia, he said, needs credit, but it is idle to expect credit unless there is a basis for it, and that basis cannot be supplied from the outside but must be furnished inside of Russia. Political recognition, the secretary added, follows the establishment of a sound basis for intercourse, and is dependent upon the existence of a government that is competent to discharge and shows a disposition to discharge its international obligations." We are, Mr. Hughes concluded, most desirous to do what we can to aid in Russia's reconstruction, but those who dominate the affairs of that country must establish the basis for it."

The aim of the other powers at Genoa has been to get from Russia such assurance as would be a satisfactory basis of agreement under which they could render aid in the restoration of that country. Nothing but ill-considered expediency could prevent Russia from meeting the other powers in such a manner as to restore confidence and clear the whole European atmosphere.

The Standard cannot decide the people by suggesting that the market for hydro-electric current will be so restricted as to make the price higher than at present. Not only will there be eventually a market for 10,000,000 kilowatt hours, but for a great deal more. The initial cost to consumers may be somewhat greater because of the inaction of the old city council for a year or more, and it would be still greater if there were further delay in moving to get a distribution system; but once the market is gained the price will be low and will always remain low. If the New Brunswick Power Company had its way the price would always remain high. We are building for the future, and monopolies must be broken.

Sir Robert Horne, chancellor of the exchequer, anticipates a trade revival here very long, and says the situation in Great Britain is now showing improvement. This information, from such a source, is welcome.

The interests of St. John and of the provincial hydro-electric commission in regard to the success of the movement for cheap and ample power in this city are identical. The most hearty co-operation is therefore essential to both.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.

The decision of the city council to pay the necessary 25 per cent. of the cost to have a branch of the Dominion employment service established here will be heartily approved. It is in line with the recommendation of the citizens' committee who only recently, because of a lack of funds, closed an employment bureau conducted for some time by the Salvation Army, with the assistance and that of the Rotary Club. The advantage of the federal bureau is that it links St. John up with every other city and town in Canada where a similar office is conducted, and thus provides for an interchange of labor, with the assurance that when a man or a group of men are sent for they will find employment waiting for them. It has been said by some who opposed the opening of a branch in St. John that employers would not go to such a place to get men or women. The experience of other cities proves that this assertion is not well founded. It is quite true that an employment bureau cannot create work, but it can reveal conditions, and it serves to bring the unemployed into touch with those who are looking for workers. It is found desirable for those who register, if they do not get work within a few weeks, to register again, in order that they may be kept on the list and that those in charge may know their services are still available. It is a great convenience to the public to have an office where application for help may be made with practical certainty that it can be got quickly and without expense. St. John in this matter is not making an experiment but adopting a policy of proved value.

THE AMERICAN TARIFF.

The minority report of the Democrats on the Senate tariff bill at Washington does not mince matters. It describes this tariff as "an act to mortgage the country and its resources to the protection and monopolized industries." Two paragraphs of the report read as follows: "It is predicted, in view of these facts affecting our market conditions, selling prices, and profits, if the rates and policies of this bill are adopted and applied, the inevitable result will be an industrial and business debacle, the disastrous consequences of which cannot be foretold or estimated. The uprising in 1909 against the excessively high rates of the Payne-Aldrich bill, levied with little reference to principle and chiefly to satisfy the greedy demands of the beneficiaries of protection, not only forced the Republican party to adopt and proclaim a fixed rule of measuring protection to be accorded—namely, the difference in the cost of production here and abroad, which this bill utterly ignores—but brought about the overthrow of that party in 1912."

"It is predicted that this bill, with its prohibitive rates, based on an uncertain and dangerous principle of measuring differences in competitive conditions here and abroad, will not only advance present prices, increase the cost of living, reduce production, create unemployment, but will finally eventuate in the practical monopolization of practically all of our protected industries, making the sway of the trusts and monopolies supreme, and that the overthrow of the Republican party, which will follow, will be as complete and more permanent than that which swept it out of power in 1912."

This report will furnish considerable ammunition for the congressional elections in the fall. Meanwhile congress has not yet agreed finally on the tariff, and it is not yet law. Bradstreet's of last week says—

"Celerity can scarcely be said to have marked the progress of the tariff bill in the Senate thus far, in view of the fact that over two thousand amendments to the House bill are to be passed upon by the upper house. However, after ten days of debate, the first vote upon an amendment was reached on Tuesday of this week. This represented such slow progress that Senator McCumber felt moved to say, on the basis of a calculation made by a treasury expert, that at the present rate the bill would pass the Senate in 1946."

At yesterday's meeting of the city council three commissioners testified that there is a good deal of unemployment in the city at the present time. Conditions should improve as the season advances, but it is still desirable that any citizen who can provide even a little work should do so now, in order that those out of employment may be able to earn at least a little money to meet their family needs.

THANKFULNESS.

If when the evening shadows fall around me,
I can look deep within my heart and say:
"I have been true unto the best within me,
Have tried to live just as I should to-day,"

I can be glad, though failures press upon me
And doubt and grief oppress and weigh my soul,
And know that each noble, thoughtful day
I yet will reach a little, worthwhile goal.

Katherine Edelman, in Kansas City Star.

LIGHTER VEIN.

The Wonderful Movies
"We'll have to stop work on 'The Glorious Daughter,' said the movie producer.
"But we've built a section of Rome just for this picture."
"We can use it for 'The Steel King's Romance.' Put up a few more signs, have one utility man pose as a traffic cop and we'll call it Pittsburg."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Open Minded.

William J. Bryan tells of an election contest in a small county where the opponent aspiring to be sheriff was so devoted to let consistency to go by the board (which Mr. Bryan says sometimes happens in political contests and he ought to know).
He announced his intention to his predecessor. "You remember I defeated you on the third-term issue." "I remember it most distinctly," said the other. "Well I thought then it was positive evil. But now I see there is every reason why a man should have the office a third time. I have therefore come to tell you that, seeing my mistake, I am man enough to acknowledge it."—Wall Street Journal.

Soft Soap Still Effective.

"Hobby, a writer in Blanka Magazine says that wives should get wages. Don't you think they should?"
"Of course, my dear, but there isn't money enough in the whole world to pay you."
Then she smiled and went on washing the dishes.—Boston Transcript.

"LIGHTHOUSE NAN"

Fairville Talent Scores a Hit in City Hall, West Saint John.

"Lighthouse Nan," a comedy-drama in three acts, by the St. Columba Dramatic Club, was presented in City Hall, West Saint John, last evening, under the auspices of the C. G. I. T. of the First Presbyterian church. The production was received with a large audience, and each member of the troupe came in for a good share of applause.
Spoken dialogue must be made of the title character, Lighthouse Nan, played by Miss D. Campbell, who took the part of the ill-used wife and the young college girl to perfection. J. Packard Campbell, as Ned Blake, the private secretary, rendered his part of the play in a manner worthy of the praise he received. Leonard Coughle took the part of the lecherous keeper, the tipsy Buzzer, the wife of the lighthouse keeper, Miss M. Long as Moll Buzzer, carried a very difficult part through in a highly creditable manner. Teddy Campbell as Sir Arthur Choke, the British attaché, was the applause and laughter of his hearers. Miss Lucy Black, in the difficult part of the haughty society belle, Hortense Enlow, is worthy of mention and the praise she received. Miss Marion Black took the part of Hon. Sarah Chumley-Choke, Sir Arthur's sister, in a thoroughly English manner. Fred Duff, as the elderly banker, Mr. Enlow, came in for a share of praise which he well merited. J. Harper Henderson, as the lecherous waiter, was also well received. The play was a success in every way, and the audience was well pleased with an evening of enjoyment.

The play deals with the life of a baby girl, which she lived in a very wealthy father, and raised as a "Lighthouse Nan." Sixteen years later, her father, who was a very rich man, died, and she was left with a large fortune. She was then sent to boarding school. The play shows how she was treated by the school, and how she was treated by her father's friends. The play is a very good one, and it is well worth seeing.

GREAT INCREASE IN BRITISH EXPORTS

The volume of principal British exports increased greatly in March, 1922, compared to the corresponding month of 1921. British exports of iron and steel, coal, cotton yarn and piece goods and woolen and worsted yarns and tissues, were among those which materially improved.

Detailed figures of New York, from its English Information Service, indicate the following increases in quantity of various important commodities exported.

	March, 1921	March, 1922
Coal, tons	1,068,078	5,201,235
Cotton yarn, lbs	8,779,700	16,750,700
Cotton piece goods, sq. yds.	281,981,800	308,897,500
Woolen and worsted yarns, sq. yds.	1,654,700	4,048,100
Woolen tissues, sq. yds.	6,222,800	9,812,800
Woolen tissues, sq. yds.	2,860,800	5,018,000
Iron and steel, tons	148,852	205,820
Pig iron exports, tons	44,467	101,101

The largest increases were in shipments to Belgium, France and Italy.
British shipments of cotton and woolen goods, iron and steel and coal all showed an improvement in March, 1922, compared to the corresponding quarter of 1921.
In the first three months of 1922 the excess of imports over British exports was only £19,880,057 compared to £25,077,539 in the corresponding quarter of 1921.

HOW LONG CAN WE LIVE?

How long life is to be attained? Jean Pinot, in the "Nouvelles" gives an answer, regarding the subject from a new aspect. First of all, he says, the common notions as to the necessary brevity of life must be abandoned. Man, he insists, can live 100 years, and this in a state of health that will permit him to serve himself through all his physiological and moral faculties. He says—
"One of the principal reasons for man's death before 100 years has been the false idea that eighty or ninety years mark the extreme limit of his terrestrial life. This auto-suggestion crept like a poison into man's consciousness and made the ravages of time conform to its contents. As soon as it is replaced by the truth that we can attain the age of a century and a half—many proceed to ward it with serenity and radiant contentment of health."

"What is more, physicians for formerly refused to treat in the usual way people who had exceeded the conventional limits of life, attributing their infirmities to quasi old age, today treat them like other patients. And they obtain unexpected results."
"Count Greppi, who died in 1920 at the age of 106, furnishes an edifying example for the centenarians of tomorrow. The former Italian ambassador and senator had until the last moment of his life kept up his physiological and intellectual forces. He, no doubt, would still be among the living had it not been for excessive auto-suggestion, with which he was necessarily regarded on his way on account of his old age. He was so much tormented on account of his hundred years that he ultimately was seized with anxiety and apprehension that undermined finally killed him."

Innumerable documents have been sent to M. Pinot from all parts of the globe, enough to fill a large volume. Here is an example, in the contents of a recent letter sent to him by the eminent Chilean senator, M. Armando Moraga Droguet, corresponding member of the Society of Comparative Legislation of Paris—
"In Temuco, where he exercises the functions of protector of the natives, there are, in a population of 40,000 souls, more than twenty persons who have reached the century-and-a-half mark. "And the author of this document guarantees the absolute authenticity of his statements, resulting from one of the most thorough investigations."

"Since I launched the doctrine of longevity, which actually enjoys a success beyond all my hopes," says M. Pinot, "I have been tried to suppress my assertions. Dr. Eugene Fisk, president of the Life Extension Institute, at the annual meeting of the New York Medical Society, maintained the doctrine that it will require one hundred years to prolong human life beyond 1,000 years. He supports his assertion on the fact that we have succeeded in prolonging by 990 the life expectancy of certain worms; that the tortoise lives over 2,000 years; and that several plants succeed in going beyond tens of centuries."
"Nothing authorizes us, it is true, to accept this doctrine, which only brings in its favor arguments that have no bearing on human physiology. Yet it must not be rejected without investigation, for however improbable it be, this and all similar doctrines can only help the triumph of the real doctrine, the most logical that should attain a century and a half."

CONDITIONS IN GERMANY.

(Montreal Gazette)
An interesting account of the conditions obtaining in Germany at the conclusion of the war was given by F. W. Fry, a cabin passenger on the Regina. Mr. Fry, who returned from Germany twelve months with his wife and family in Germany, stated that while the German marks had decreased from a pre-war value of 24 cents to its present value of less than half a cent, it was also decreased in buying power for the Germans to one-twentieth of its pre-war value, making prices for them from fifteen to twenty times higher.
As examples Mr. Fry mentioned that in making some recent purchases in Berlin, a fine leather hand-made pigskin bag was obtained for 3,400 marks, or approximately \$11, while the same bag would have cost \$2.50 in New York. A pair of Goetz shoes cost \$4.50 and a suit of the best Scotch woolen tweed was bought in Berlin for \$10.00. While in Berlin Mr. Fry saw a large roomed house in the best part of the city for 4,400 marks, or about \$15 per month, while the household staff, consisting of two housemaids, a cook, scullery-maid and chauffeur, were quite content with a wage of \$8 per month each. Mr. Fry stated that conditions in Germany are improving rapidly and that the country's transportation, customs and other public services are now functioning normally.

LADY ASTOR'S APPEAL.

(Lady Astor in Baltimore)
"The big contribution you women can make to politics and national life is to fearlessly tackle the moral standard, insist upon the single standard of morality, not by lowering our standard, but by raising it to the moral standard of that of women. Do that in America. We are working for it and we are going to do it in England. If America and England do it then all countries must follow."

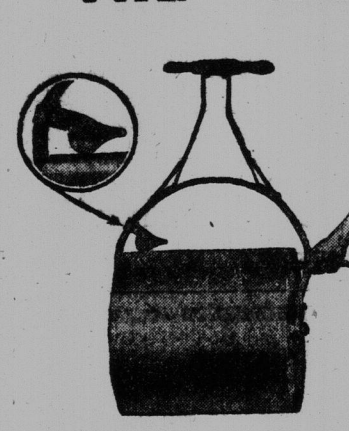
"You cannot be material in your domestic life and be spiritual in your national life. You cannot be material in your national life and be idealistic in your international relations. Lust creates the spirit of war; it is incompatible with the spirit of peace. The material lustful man lives and dies. It is the spiritual man who never dies. So with nations; no material warlike, lustful nation, however powerful, has ever survived."

"The peace which the world wants is not the peace which comes from a smashing conquest—that sort of peace is apt to sow the seeds of vengeance. I believe the women can help to bring to the world the real peace which passeth all understanding."
"Always remember St. Paul's words, 'I pray particularly to women, God bless them, for they are the spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.'"

WOMEN AS ECONOMISTS.

(Toronto Globe.)
An official who has been doing research work for mutual savings banks in the United States says that wives whose husbands earn less than \$4,000 a year make wiser and more economical use of money than do the husbands, but when the family income rises above that point the feminine impulse toward economy weakens and the wives are apt to spend on dress more than they can afford.
Arnold Bennett, in his latest book, "Mr. Prohack," develops this theme amusingly. Mr. Prohack was a civil servant with an inelastic income who was plucked, like his class, by rising prices during and after the war. His wife practised a rigorous and increasing self-denial, but the husband balked at it.

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