

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1922.

DAYLIGHT SAVING—SO-CALLED.

On Sunday morning next, the City of St. John will commence its annual attempt to conserve daylight.

The scheme does not commend itself to a very large section of citizens, for it has many disadvantages than other.

We notice that several other cities in Canada which adopted the so-called Daylight Time a week or two ago, are already tired of it and are petitioning their governing bodies to rescind the order bringing it into effect.

Country people don't like it, and will not conform to it, even though failure to do so incurs a city dweller.

It appears the time of departure of trains, for no one in ever saw what time a particular train will leave, when some are running on Eastern time, some on Atlantic time, and some on Daylight time, and still others on any old time.

We notice from the American press reports, that on Monday last Washington began an experiment in voluntary daylight saving that has more to commend it than the system we employ here.

Instead of changing the hands of the clock, an order signed by the President was issued directing that the employees of the executive departments go to work an hour earlier in the morning and cease an hour earlier.

Most of the commercial establishments of the city changed their business schedules to conform with the Government plan.

There is some element of honesty and common sense about this plan. Telling ourselves an untruth about the time of day, knowing it to be untrue, in order to induce ourselves to get up an hour earlier in the morning, at the best is a clumsy expedient.

We have been doing that way for several years, for the reason that, we thought it the only way possible to conserve an extra hour of daylight. But we don't know that we couldn't simply agree to get up and go to work an hour earlier in the day, because we never have tried it.

It is quite possible that just such an agreement could be made. Merchants are able to agree about general closing hours and it is not wholly impossible that shops and factories would do the same if the proposition were put up to them.

If such a general agreement could be made, the whole vexed problem would be straightened out. We would know when to go to our trains, we'd know what time it was in the next town, and there would be an end of the interminable question as to what kind of time is meant when an hour is mentioned.

The ruffled feathers of our rural neighbors would also be smoothed thereby. One of the most difficult things about the daylight saving plan is that almost everyone in the country is so angry about it, and not without cause, it must be admitted. But if a man in the city wanted to arise earlier in the summer than he is accustomed to in the winter no one would have cause to be vexed, so long as the early riser lets the hands of his watch alone.

However, so long as civil affairs are permitted to be regulated by a small group which makes up in self assertiveness what it lacks in real representative character, the ordinary citizen must put up with what he can get.

ONE POSSIBLE RESULT OF FEMALE FRANCHISE.

The political field in Canada is already occupied by three duly recognized parties, the Conservatives, the Liberals and the Farmers, with a Labor party hovering round in the offing.

One result of conferring the franchise on women may be the creation at no distant date of a Woman's party—and then what? Men will always vote according to party affiliation, but if the women, who are practically of equal voting strength with men, should put up candidates of their own sex in each constituency and vote solidly for them, the constitution of the House of Commons would undergo a very striking change—as would also many other phases of government.

Women's Clubs are beginning to crop up all over the country, and sooner or later political questions will find a place in their discussions. And when the members of these clubs make up their minds as to what they want, the natural outcome will be that, like the Farmer group, they will want to send women to Parliament to get their views carried out, and with a voting power equal to that of the masculine element of the electorate, they will be able to send them.

This at least is the condition of affairs that confronts the political life of the United States, and there is very little doubt that sooner or later it will spread over Canada too.

American women, it is said, are just beginning to wake up to the fact that they now possess equal voting rights with men, and are governing themselves accordingly. The idea that our president

when the franchise was conferred upon women, that those women who voted would be guided by the influence or direction of their men relatives, with the only result that the total vote cast would be doubled and the net result remain unchanged, is not apparently working out in practice. The attitude of American women, so we learn from a contemporary, has been such as to indicate a desire to withhold any open alliance with the greater political parties, evidently with the purpose of wielding in the campaign an unascertained and unascertainable power and influence which could be counted on to support only those candidates and those demands which represent ideals which appeal especially to women and a fair measure of independence in political action.

This apparent determination has been hailed as an indication of the dawn of an era of actual political freedom.

It is not altogether an unsafe forecast that the same independent line of action which American women have decided upon, will be copied by their Canadian sisters in the not distant future, and this contingency only emphasizes the great need there is for the inauguration of some system of education in political affairs by means of which women may become properly versed in the why and wherefore of the various public questions on which they will be called upon to vote.

The Globe's idea as to the desirability of organizing a strong committee of prominent business men and property owners "to closely watch all phases of the civil situation" may be all right in its way, but isn't our contemporary a trifle late in making the suggestion? Has not His Worship Mayor McLean already thought all this out, and prepared a scheme under which there is to be an advisory council of sixty-five elders of the people to undertake the very work The Globe suggests? We are under the impression that he outlined such a scheme at one of his meetings. We assume that this advisory council, like the city hydro commission, would be nominated by His Worship himself, which would, of course, be a perfect guarantee as to satisfactoriness and competency, and that it would also serve without remuneration or emolument of any kind "from the City Treasury."

This sort of thing should surely satisfy The Globe.

The decision of the citizens' meeting at the Board of Trade rooms last night that the memorial they decided to erect to record the sacrifices made by the boys who gave their lives in the war, should be a memorial "sole and simple," is to be commended. As we pointed out yesterday, if the proposed memorial should take any form that could be put to utilitarian purposes, its distinctive character and object would very soon be lost. If we might be permitted to make the suggestion, a plain shaft of New Brunswick granite, 60 to 75 feet high, on a suitable base, with appropriate metal tablets affixed, would be as satisfactory as anything. However, whatever kind of memorial is decided on, the committee—or rather the nucleus of a committee—which was appointed to proceed with the matter, should be accorded every assistance that it is possible to give to it.

We notice that the City Council has decided to undertake the paving of Prince William Street by day work.

If the Commissioner in charge of the work employs the same industrious gang of workers in this instance as was employed some time ago when that portion of the street from the City Hall southwards was done, it is going to be a very expensive game.

Once during the course of that work it needed the services of six men to cut a piece of 8 x 3 plank, barely four feet long, in two. Two men held each end of this gigantic piece of timber on the saw horse, and two men piled the cross-cut saw, and what with talking and resting between whistles, the job took nearly four minutes to carry out. Any ten year old boy with a back-saw would have done it in 15 seconds.

Following the precedent set a few years ago, when the honorary degree of LL. D. was conferred upon the then Premier, the Hon. James E. Plummer, the University of New Brunswick is today about to confer the same honor upon Mr. Foster.

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Tuesday's vote have upset Government in the past, there does not seem, on the face of things, to be any reason why the Government should go out in this instance. Evidently Mr. Lloyd George does not regard Mr. work as done at present, and he intends to stay and finish it. Moreover, it is doubtful if England has another man quite as capable as he is to finish it. If he did lay it down, Mr. Asquith could not, and Lord Balfour probably would not.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Modern Adventure (London Daily Mail.)

The world may not be so exciting a place as it was to the Elizabethan adventurers, but it still contains many black spots. If there are no longer empires to found, there are secrets to be unravelled. And in proportion as scientific knowledge has advanced, so has the significance of new discoveries become greater.

Anybody who can give us new and authentic facts about the world is performing a public service which may always turn out to be of definite value to humanity.

Much Money (Los Angeles Times.)

In connection with the printing of the new 100,000,000 ruble notes by the Russian Soviet the statement is made that in the last five years Russia has issued paper money to the extent of eighteen trillions of rubles. If this were good money it would represent more than all the coinage of all the world since the creation. As it is it has only the backing of a gold reserve said to amount to less than \$15,000,000 of the real stuff. The Soviet money as it stands is not even a good grade of wall paper.

Canada's Pledged Word (Providence Journal.)

The Dominion of Canada has had no difficulty in attracting Americans with securities paying five per cent. The Canadians have a reputation for keeping their agreements in letter and spirit. Germany and Russia are not in the Canada class, though once ranking among nations of the highest integrity. Who can have faith in the sincerity of Lenin and Trotsky, or the responsibility of the Soviet Government? As for Germany, the spirit that has repudiated pledges as "scrap of paper" is not calculated to inspire confidence.

Drawbacks of Democracy (The Englishman, Calcutta.)

One of the most cruel facts about a democratic system of Government is that it deprives practical men and men of action of power and places it in the hands of literary persons and gentlemen with fluent tongues. Where votes have to be won from ignorant masses, people whose time has been devoted to striving with the instant needs of the day or who are engaged in solving administrative and executive problems involving a great expenditure of energy find themselves out-argued and outplayed by the others who have nothing more to consider than the means of awakening emotion in an unthinking mob.

Look for Better Times (Johnannesburg Star.)

All the conditions favorable to progress are to be found in South Africa. What is required is a good start on an adequate scale. A substantial Government loan would give the Union that start, and probably set private enterprises moving more vigorously as well. And when we get the machinery running again there should be no difficulty in keeping it going. Sliding down and waiting for better times will not help South Africa. What we have got to do is to start out and look for better times. Will the Government give the country a lead? South Africa's credit is high and any money the Government needs will be put up without difficulty overseas.

Love Triumphant (London Observer.)

The high cost of courtship, it seems has had its effect on the manner and nature of love-making. The modern era, afflicted by the expense of denying too long an attendance on the object of his desire, hurries up matters and begs for a wedding day at the earliest possible moment. Many a married man would say that this is the last way to effect economy, but that is merely a cynical digression. What is more to the point is the suggestion that these hurried modern courtships lead to a more and tender atmosphere which surrounded the loves of our mothers and grandmothers. It is a needless alarm. The power of that greatest of all human motives, love, remains unchanged, whatever the age or the climate.

THE LAUGH LINE

A Great Scheme, Napham—"My wife has a great scheme to save coal."

Gibson—"What's that?"

"Bend the winter in half."

At This Time of the Year, "There's no place like home."

"I don't know. The club seems more restful when the paperhangers are in the house."

Careless Feet, Mother—"Darling, you are never quiet a moment. Why do you race indoors out and out and down stairs so?"

Five-year-old—"I just don't know."

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS

Oysters, Clams, Halibut, Mackerel, Salmon, Haddock, Cod, Salt Sticks, Salted Fish Market.

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

FRED FEERNOT IN COURT.

Act 1.

Scene, Fred Feernot waiting along.

Fred Feernot. G was a dull day. I think I'll just step in the court house and see if anything interesting is going on. Maybe they're trying some innocent woman for murder and maybe I can be a little assistant.

Act 2.

Scene, inside the court house.

Fred Feernot. Ah, just as I thought. Stop the trial! That lady is as innocent as the new born snow.

Judge. Who says so?

Fred Feernot. I do.

Judge. Who are you?

Fred Feernot. Fred Feernot. Heers one of my cards.

Judge. I've heard of you, I believe. Well what makes you think this lady is so innocent?

Fred Feernot. Because I personally saw another lady shoot the man and then run. She shot him twice and I can identify her by the way she runs.

Judge. The prisoner will please run around the court room. Is that the guilty lady?

Fred Feernot. Absolutely not. She's too graceful.

Judge. The prisoner is discharged innocent.

Judge. I am the Kings youngest dawdler and I offer to marry this young man for a reward. I will lift up my vale and give him a look.

Fred Feernot. No thanks, I only did my duty.

The End.

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Pain, Pain

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mammas, "less its 'cause my feet feel so light hearted."—Boston Transcript.

More Likely.

"Yes," said Podson, "that fellow can tell, by feeling the bumps on your head, what kind of a man you are."

"Can he?" replied Pat. "Beggars, I should think it would give him more of an idea what kind of a woman he wallo is!"

Try Hypnotism.

The home brew had been brought out and disposed of, and now for two hours Blake and his friend had been expecting the worst.

"Blay, Bill!"

"Weather masher!"

"They say if you look 'em straight in the eye, they won't bite you."

The Splendid Match.

"She's making a splendid match."

"So? How much is the man worth?"

A Recommendation.

"I'll say this for my second ex-bus band."

"What?"

"He certainly pays his alimony much more promptly than my first one did."

Compromise Verdict.

"What did the jury do with the beautiful defendant?"

"Brought in a compromise verdict."

"A compromise verdict?"

"Not guilty, but don't go into wedlock."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Trick.

Judge Cline (rubbing his hands) at Shoreditch—"This is the kind of wit."

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