

The St. John Standard

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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 more disadvantages than otherwise. 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.

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.

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 chancy 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, which 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 would 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 trifled loss 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 takes the hands of his watch alone.

However, so long as civic 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 of a new party. 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 material outcome will be that, like the Farmer group, they will want to send women to Parliament to get their wants 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 time that the present

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 civic 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 McEllan 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."

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 9 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 honor of LL. D. upon the Hon. Walter H. Foster into the ranks of distinguished men whom it has delighted to honor in this way. At least it must be admitted that Mr. Foster has done quite as much to deserve the honor as most other recipients of it.

The Lloyd George Government will not resign as a consequence of the adverse vote in the House of Commons on Tuesday evening. While it is true, as has been pointed out, that incidents, equally or more and unimportant on

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 his work as done at present, and he looks 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 blank 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 not 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 repute. 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 "scraps of paper" is not calculated to inspire confidence.

Drawbacks of Democracy (The Englishman, Calcutta.) One of the most crucial 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 awaking emotion in an unthinking mob.

Look for Better Times (Johnnesburg 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 than well. And when we get the machinery running again there should be no difficulty in keeping it going. Sitting 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 if 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 swain, afflicted by the expense of doing 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 a cynical digestion. What is more to the point is the suggestion that these hurried modern courtships lack romantic 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 changeless, 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?" Napham—"I'll buy a winter in Italy." 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 in doors and out and up 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, Shell's Fish Market.

Benny's Note Book. BY LEE PAPE. FRED FERNOT IN COURT. Scene, Fred Fernot waiting along. Fred Fernot. G was a dull day. I think I'll just stop 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.

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