

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, JULY 19, 1921.

THE HARBOR QUESTION

The whole question of turning over the harbor to the Government seems to hinge on the word "TR". If the Government will undertake:

To recognize St. John as a national port for the use and benefit of the Dominion as a whole as Halifax is;

To at once spend such an amount of money upon it as will bring it up-to-date and equip it with modern facilities, adequate to deal with an increasing national trade;

To defray the cost of all improvements out of the national exchequer without expecting the revenue to take care of the interest, thus treating it as a national work;

Not to raise the tolls or do any other act that will place the port at a disadvantage as regards other ports;

Then by all means let the city roll the harbor and all belonging to it to the Government without delay.

But if the Government:

Will only take over the harbor on the terms laid down in the 1919 Act;

Will only spend such a sum of money in improvements as the revenue is sufficient to pay interest on;

Will only patch up the property sufficient to "carry on" with;

Will expect the harbor revenue to take care of all outgoings, increasing the tolls if necessary, to swell it;

Will not regard the harbor as a national property indispensable to all parts of the Dominion alike;

Then the less the city has to do with Harbor Commission as proposed by the present Act the better.

For years and years the City of St. John has at its own cost maintained this port for the benefit of Canada as a whole. It has not been a money-making proposition, on the contrary the revenue derived from its business has always been less than its absolutely necessary outgoings. It is of no financial benefit to the city to maintain a public harbor for the use and enjoyment of the millions of people in Upper and Western Canada. But it is a valuable property, and before the city parts with it, it wants to be assured that the best possible use is going to be made of it, and that it will be equipped in such a way as to redound to the city's credit. The plea that is offered in some quarters that no Government would spend two millions on a property and then neglect it, avails nothing so long as the revenue derived takes care of the interest on the outlay. The Act as drawn leaves sadly too much to chance.

A POLICY OF NATIONAL SUICIDE

Those short-sighted farmers who are enamored at the prospect of the few dollars they will be able to save on what they may purchase under Free Trade had better seriously consider what they are bound to lose on their sales should that suicidal policy ever go into effect. It is estimated that 85% of all that the Eastern farmers raise is sold for cash at good prices in our towns and cities, the most of the surplus going to the United States. The United States market is now "banged, barred and bolted" in our faces. Not a single thing that the Canadian farmer raises is exempt from a heavy, indeed, a prohibitive customs tax under the new tariff. Where are our farmers to dispose of their surplus? Abroad? That remains to be seen. Europe, on account of the ruinous state of exchange, will buy as little as possible. Europe, indeed, aims to be self-sufficient and people abroad are working the land as never before. According to the International Bureau of Agriculture at Rome, there are sufficient stocks of grain on hand at present in Europe to carry the European peoples till the next harvest (which promises to be good) is reaped, and leave 8½ millions quarters of a surplus. Surely, under these circumstances, common sense and self interest should cause our wild Free Traders to pause in their mad career. Free Trade, or a near approach to Free Trade, would destroy our towns and cities, and, of course, at one blow, destroy the farmer's principal market. The cities would go down, but the farms would go down with them and we should all be involved in a common ruin. Furthermore, Free Trade in food stuffs (the principal plank of the Laurier Liberal party) would result in the United States dumping their surplus stocks of farm produce on Canada to the great detriment of Canadian agriculture. Our markets would be open to them; theirs would be closed to us. It is time for the farmers to wake up and grasp the

fact that their very solvency depends upon prosperous local markets that will take all they can raise and pay cash for it. The policy of Messrs. Crerar, Wood, Drury & Co., is a policy of national suicide.

MEIGHEN'S STATESMANSHIP

Messrs. MacKenzie King, Ernest Lapointe and other opponents of the Government who could see little to be gained by Premier Meighen attending the Imperial Conference and wished to send him there hobbled and disabled by feeling rather sheepish as they read the news that comes from London and Washington. Mr. Meighen, instead of involving Canada in the vortex of European and Asiatic Militarism, has found a way to reduce armaments and clear up the threatening situation in the Far East. He has convinced the British and American Governments alike that a war between the United States and Japan, with its embarrassing consequences to Canada and the Empire, is not inevitable. In Washington he is generally credited with having originated the happy solution of the Far Eastern question with the coming conference of the Great Powers is likely to bring about.

Premier Meighen blazed the way which President Harding has followed in dealing with the vast and intricate question of the safety of the Pacific. At the opening of the Imperial Conference, Mr. Meighen was almost alone in advocating a conference between the British Empire, the United States and Japan to bring about relations and guarantee a permanent peace. He saw in this a way out of the difficulty which confronted the Empire. Naturally, he was anxious to preserve friendship with Japan without arousing distrust in the United States. His proposal was condemned by the Liberal Press of Canada as academic and it will now proceed to praise Premier Harding instead of Premier Meighen for a statesmanlike solution of the greatest problem presented to the Imperial Conference. The propositions laid down by Mr. Meighen in his opening speech at the Imperial Conference are the propositions now laid down by Premier Lloyd George and enthusiastically acclaimed by the British Parliament.

THE IRISH CONFERENCE

The news that came over the cables last night announcing somewhat of a hitch in the negotiations for a peaceful settlement of affairs in Ireland, will no doubt be received with pleasure by the so-called friends of Ireland in the United States. As a matter of fact a considerable part of what takes the form of sympathy for Ireland in the United States is in reality enemy toward England; that many of those who shout the loudest in the United States for Irish freedom are interested in it only as a means of injuring Britain.

These so-called Irish-Americans do not want to see Ireland obtain a satisfactory measure of self-government within the British Empire. They do not care whether or not that would be to the advantage of Ireland. What they want is an independent Ireland hostile to Britain and that could be used as a strategic place from which to attack Britain. This class of Irish-Americans are viewing with apprehension the conference on the Irish problem.

Before granting any extension of the present jitney service His Worship the Mayor and City Council should thoroughly satisfy themselves that such extension is needed. There are already more automobiles running loose about the city than is good for the public safety; and if we are to have any increase in their number, pedestrians would do well to stay at home. If a jitney service is necessary at all, by far the wisest thing to do would be to permit the ex-street car men to operate it on some regular system and abolish altogether the odds and ends of cars that are at present in use. The ex-street car men are at least experienced hands; the others are only a menace to the public.

The chap in the parable who excused himself from attendance at a feast because he had married a wife, was simply a common or garden piker in comparison with the Rotarian who wrote to excuse himself from attendance at yesterday's luncheon because he was camping up river with eighteen girls!

WHAT OTHERS SAY

We Devoutly Hope So

The site of Armageddon in Palestine, where the last battle of which details are known was fought, is to be excavated by a University of Chicago expedition made possible by a gift of \$60,000 by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Will the last battle be as far in the future as that one was in the past?—Springfield Republican.

Volcanoes Make No Difference.

Just now Stromboli is having a peculiarly frightful fit. The people have fled to the sea, begging for boats to take them away. The Italian Government will see to it that they are rescued. But when the eruption is over the will doubtless return and resume their routine activities. Men must live. And they must live where the earth is productive. As long as volcanic material makes a fertile soil men will huddle confidingly up to the very feet of the great destroyers. The alibi is more powerful than the fear of sudden death.—Chicago Tribune.

The Abuse of Slang.

We are forever employing words that spoil our language. There is a world of difference between the woolly jargon which conveys no precise image to the mind and a careful choice of epithets which are lively, exact, and full of meaning. There is a middle way between nervous pedantry and the common, flabby, inaccurate expressions which are allowed to creep into the office of reasonable speech. Slang is a forcible, descriptive and picturesque right. Slang is none of these things, and should be ruthlessly deleted from our vocabulary. Let us say what we mean and mean what we say.—Egyptian Mail.

Practical Jokes and Crime.

The idiot who drives a woman into hysterics by a lying story or sets a child shrieking by experiments on its schoolbag by experiments on its schoolbag, or resorts to the practical peculiarity which brings pain to a timid householder, comes at last to feel something of the tyrant's position in suffering and something, too, of the tyrant's love of power. And so, like the Roman Emperor, the jester passes into the criminal. Parents and teachers do their duty but imperfectly who do not make their charges see all this and expose and denounce, and where possible, punish, before it hardens a character, the disposition to find sport in little tricks of laughter here and there.—Adelaide Chronicle.

A BIT OF VERSE

A CAMP SONG.

(Edward W. Barnard.)

My hermit tent pitched by a purring bay
Peers whitely through the trees as I embark
The citadel of my domain by day
A stately beacon in the piny dark
Its long reflections in the water clear
My flying skiff with many a ripple frills
And none would think the thunder of the mills
Began in little ripples of laughter here!
The stream that so few miles from its retreat
Through mossy race its turbid torrent pours
Is the same limpid stream to whose slow beat
Is played the liquid music of my oars.

Undone by crash of looms and whirr of wheels
I seek and find in windy solitude
Nepenthes never-falling-rest that steals
The sting from memories of fuss and feud
Long past the hour when bells and sirens make
A very Bedlam of the dreaming town
I sleep as though my boughs were finest down
On, on, and on, till hunger cries
A prayer, a plunge, a perch to catch and broil
A smoke that drives all lethargy away
A thought upon the uselessness of toil
And I am ready for another day.
The days are much too full for loneliness.
They come and go on fleetest of all wings
Twixt dawn and dusk a thousand times, I guess
I ask myself, "Can this be I that sing?"
So happy am I, and while it is true I miss the presence of a shining one
When twilight, treading softly as a nun,
Sits out the sun and then the welkin bligs
Not even in the silences that grow
At last as sharp as ruthless scimitars,
Am I quite lonely, for do I not know
That Constancy, too, is looking at my stars?

THE LAUGH LINE

I don't planting or even hoeing green beans that tries men's souls and likens their backs. It's picking the cussed things.

Every mother thinks there is no baby like her own and every other mother is glad of it.

Prevaricators.
"I am so sorry I was not at home the other afternoon when you called on me."
"And, my dear, I was just as sorry not to find you in."

Mistake Somewhere.
George—Did you ever hear a rabbit bark?
Thelma—Nonsense! Rabbits don't bark!

George—That's funny; it says here in my book that rabbits eat cabbage and bark.

All Explained.
Officer in charge of rifle range—"Don't you know any better than to point an empty gun at me?"
Raw Rookie—"But it isn't empty, sir; it's loaded."—The Mirror.

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

THE PARK AVE. NEWS.

Weather. Beach for Improvements. Sports. While practicing walking on his hands last Saturday, Skinny Martin bumped into some strange lady and she was so insulted by having his "chees" stuck in her face that she gave him 2 fierce cracks without even waiting to be apologized to.

Enter! Ed Wernick Thinking About Leaving Home! Enter! Ed Wernick is talking about leaving home for good on account of his mother taking some lady into the bath room to show her the waterproof wall paper while Ed was taking a bath.

A Short Life and a Polite One. Heer today and gone tomorrow Life is short, but sweet, So up with joy and down with sorrow, And give old ladies your seat.

Sisley. Miss Loreta-Miscr is going to take 25 more shaving lessons for a birthday present. We should others had to suffer just because she has a birthday?

Packs You Awt to Know. Ivory is made out of elephants tusks, but elephants can't make it themselves, proving man's superiority over the beasts.

Lost and Found. Nothing.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

July 18.

Dear Sir,—Just a few lines if you will be good enough to spare me a few lines in your valuable paper regarding changing the name of the city streets. As there seems to be no movement on foot to erect a monument to our fallen comrades, would not be just as well to name the streets after a Canadian Battle, just to remind the citizens of St. John, or some of them, that there was once a war on. Hoping to see an article on these few lines in your paper, I am, yours very truly,

A CONSTANT READER AND ONE OF THE BOYS.

EXPLODED A BOMB

Buenos Aires, July 18.—A powerful bomb was exploded in front of the Capitol Building this morning. A policeman was seriously wounded, but only small material damage was caused. The outrage here is credited to communist agitators.

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CUTICURA HEALS RASH ON CHILD
On Body and Face. Red and Itchy. Cried For Hours. Lasted a Year.
"A rash started all over my little girl's body, and she had some on her face. It started in a pimple that was full of water, and it got red and itchy. She cried for hours. This trouble lasted a year.
"Then I started with a fine sample of Cuticura Soap and Ointment. I bought more, and I used four cakes of soap, and three boxes of Ointment which healed her." (Signed) Mrs. Dora Langley, 1033 Centre St., Verdun, Que., August 11, 1919.
The Cuticura Toilet Trio Consisting of Soap, Ointment and Talcum is an indispensable adjunct of the daily toilet in maintaining skin purity and skin health.
Soap 25c, Ointment 25c and 50c, Sold Everywhere. The Cuticura Co., Montreal, Canada. Write for Cuticura Soap and Ointment.

Linton And Saab Get Newman Brook Work
Engineer Expresses Belief That Contractors Will Lose Money.

The tender for the concrete arch over Newman Brook was awarded at the committee meeting of the Common Council yesterday morning to Linton and Saab, the lowest tenderers, the claim of Miss Wilkins for damage to her house was thrown out, and a release of liability for payment on water installation was ordered issued to the Misses Parks.
Before the Council got down to business the Mayor said he had been informed that members of the Water and Sewerage and Public Works departments staffs had taken part in the parade on Friday night and asked that he be furnished with a list of those so doing, and called attention to the request that no parade be held. Commissioner Frink promised to try and furnish the information asked for.
Commissioner Jones reported that the superintendent of water department reported that the damage complained of by Miss Wilkins to her house at the corner of Marsh street and Haymarket Square was not due to any defect in the city water pipes and moved that she be informed that the city would repair the sidewalk, but could not pay the bill she had rendered for \$191.
On motion of Commissioner Jones, the Misses Helen and Louise Parks were granted a release on two lots for which they were liable for the interest charges on the cost of installing water service to Cedar Grove Crescent.
On motion of Commissioner Jones the contract for the concrete arch over the Newman Brook was awarded to Linton and Saab, the lowest tenderers at \$14.50 per cubic yard. In his report the city engineer expressed the belief that the contractors would lose money on the work. The cost will be \$2,125, the engineer's estimate for the work was \$5,400.
Commissioner Bullock registered a kick about the lamp globes on the city lights not being cleaned and the lights being poor, and the Mayor referred to the reported greasing of rails at Indiantown. Commissioner Thornton said the police department were working on the latter case.

Altered Epigrams.
A hair on the head is worth two in the butter.

Have You Seen the Veteran-Made Furniture
at the Memorial Work Shops?
Dainty, but substantially hand made. Dressers, Bureaus, Medicine Cabinets, Linen Chests, made and finished by our returned soldier boys, at the
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Every
Illustration of a man and a woman, possibly a couple, in a domestic setting.