

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 4, 1920.

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A FORWARD PROGRAMME

Mayor Schofield has outlined the more important matters with which the city council should deal, and has declared himself in favor of a progressive policy. He regards the streets as of first importance, and favors an extensive and continuous paving programme. He is strong for harbor development along the lines of nationalization. He would have a modern municipal building and other development of the site now occupied by the ruins of the old court house. He believes in adequate playgrounds and provision for physical development and recreation. He would have a permanent and centralized fire fighting force. He would at least try to prevent the washing down the streets at night. The schools and hospitals must be given the attention their great importance deserves. In short, Mayor Schofield stands for a forward policy, and would have the citizens realize at the same time that it is worth while to pay a higher tax for a greater benefit. He would have labor and capital co-operate, so that industrial disputes might easily be settled or never occur.

All this is good doctrine. The citizens will welcome a general forward movement. Intelligent leadership will bring a cheerful response. Confidence begets confidence, and the mayor and commissioners will do well to be both optimistic and progressive. It is idle to talk of being satisfied to drag along with poor public services. The moment it is clear that progress is the watchword of the spirit of the whole citizenship will change. A great deal can be accomplished in two years of a city's life. It is a business for a city to improve its public services and add to its attractiveness. Everybody likes to be associated with a going concern that continually and profitably enlarges its activities. The city council cannot accomplish its aims without public approval and support, and these should be cheerfully accorded.

MARITIME UNION.

The premier of the province, the acting leader of the opposition, the mayor of St. John and a number of active members of the board of trade put themselves on record last evening as supporters of the principle of maritime union. They agreed with Mr. H. J. Logan, president of the maritime board of trade, that these provinces have not reaped the benefits they should fairly have reaped from confederation, and that the closest cooperation is necessary to guard their interests in the future.

Mr. Logan reviewed with great clearness the whole subject of the past relations of these provinces and the rest of the Dominion. Very forcibly he set forth the sacrifices made and the hopes and reasonable expectations unfulfilled as the years passed. The advantages to be gained by closer union in pressing just claims at Ottawa were also made plain. Dealing with the local gain by substituting one provincial government for three, Mr. Logan had no difficulty in showing where a great saving could be made. His discussion of the whole subject was illuminating, and showed that he had been at great pains to master the subject before presenting it to the people.

The remarks made by Hon. Mr. Baxter and Premier Foster in support of the principle of maritime union were not less emphatic. Indeed there was no dissenting voice at last night's meeting. It may fairly be said that since Mr. Logan as president of the maritime board set out to arouse interest in the subject in various provincial centres he has brought maritime union much nearer to the realm of the practical. The coming conference of leading men of the three provinces will at least result in closer and more sympathetic co-operation, and that will be an important step in the direction of organic union along some such lines as Mr. Logan has suggested.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

The brief address by Hon. Dr. Roberts to the Rotary Club yesterday presented the case very forcibly for public health laws and regulations, a thoroughly equipped and active health department, and the co-operation of the people in a continuous health programme.

Beginning with a simple assertion of the fact that conservation of human life is the most important of all activities, and that economy of human life, in sustaining man-power to its limit, comes next in the order of importance, the speaker proceeded to show how many lives are lost by preventable diseases and how great is the economic loss resulting from ill-health of workers in every department of productive labor. He then showed by striking figures how the death rate has been lowered through the agency of health legislation and the scientific work of public health departments; and how some diseases have been brought under control by research and enlightened measures of prevention. It is not at all a matter of theory, for the records are available to prove the accuracy of the claims presented. Dealing with infantile mortality, Dr. Roberts was able to show that excellent results have been achieved in some portions of New Brunswick, notably St. John and Moncton. The registration of vital statistics, which went into operation in this province the first of the year, has already made available statistics of much value,

and which will be more valuable from year to year, to check up the gain made in conserving human life. There is great force in Dr. Roberts' contention that we can increase our population in no other way so satisfactorily as by saving the infant lives, of which so many are lost before the little ones have attained the age of one year. To prevent disease, to save infant lives and to build up healthy bodies is the great aim of public health departments, and the research work of each year makes the way more clear. Some very striking figures were presented by the minister of health to show what has been accomplished, and his plea for education and the promotion of public health must have appealed with great force to his audience. We may care little about the ravages of the bubonic plague and typhus in the far east, but since they threaten eastern Europe and may even threaten this continent there is the greater need for a complete public health organization to deal with them as with the epidemics and the preventable diseases which levy so heavy toll from year to year. We are making excellent progress in this province along public health lines, and have cast aside forever the old haphazard methods of meeting emergencies. It is clearly the duty of every citizen to co-operate in the conservation of human life.

SEEKING IMMIGRANTS.

"We only need to spread the truth about western Canada to attract settlers," said Dr. A. O. Macfarlane of Calgary recently. "We do not need to resort to professional boasting methods. Experience has long since taught us that the truth will tell all that is required." The like is true of the maritime provinces of Canada. The trouble is that the story is not told well enough, or often enough, in the places from which desirable settlers come. There is room for a great forward movement in seeking and securing the right kind of immigration, and the three provinces should unite their efforts in addition to carrying out their individual campaigns for new settlers. The Dominion immigration department is chiefly interested in the growth of the west. Its agents in Great Britain dwell upon the advantages of the west and they are aided by railroad agencies looking for the long haul. The maritime provinces have always suffered under this handicap, and must take measures in their own behalf for a more extensive campaign of well-directed publicity.

Referring Mayor Hayes, in his address to the council yesterday, was able to review a period of four years of activity and to present financial comparisons which show how the increased cost of living has advanced the cost of the various services. He was able to show, however, that the net debt of the city was lower on January 1, 1920, than it was three years before, and that it should be possible to spend more money for the coming year than last year without increasing the tax rate. He adds, however, that if large needed expenditures are to be made for increased school and hospital accommodation, municipal building and street improvements there must be a proportionate increase in the tax rate. These services cannot be provided without money. It was Mayor Hayes' official duty during his term of office to speed many departing and welcome many returning soldiers, and this will be to him the most cherished memory of all his experiences as chief magistrate.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦
The Standard's correspondent in Ottawa has this to say of Sir Robert Borden, who is expected back about the middle of the month:

In regard to the premier's health, reports are conflicting. The truth appears to be that nobody outside a very intimate circle is in a position to make a reliable statement one way or the other. The general opinion, however, held in the best informed circles is that he is not sufficiently improved to warrant his resuming the arduous and exacting duties of the premiership, and that after protraction, his retirement will be announced.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦
The West End Improvement League held its annual meeting last evening and transacted some business, but adjourned for a week because there was so small an attendance. This league has a snug surplus and ought to be the most active and progressive in the city. The people of the west side should rally to its ranks to ensure this result. These Improvement Leagues should be active centres of local community effort along many lines.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦
St. John people sometimes kick about the tax-rate, but note this from the Bangor Commercial: "Bangor's budget for the present municipal year, published in Wednesday evening's Commercial, was adopted as reported from the finance committee at a special meeting of the city government Friday evening. The budget calls for total expenses of \$1,031,635, the amount to be levied by assessment \$782,548, and assures a tax rate of about \$3.65 for this year."

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦
Vancouver has some enterprising Chinese citizens. One concern is to erect a five-story building to be duplicated on the same lot in a couple of years, and another will erect a three-story structure at a cost of about \$50,000.



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CHANGING STYLES.

Last year I bought a limousine, the latest thing in boats, and it was word in cars," the agent cried; "all other cars will look absurd, this noble bus beside. The pride of ownership 'twill give, and fill your soul with bliss, and it will last you while you live, I wot and ween and wis. And now my tumbler's out of style, it looks like Nohb's ark, into when I'd push her for a mile I go out after dark. For if I take it out by day, by jokers it's abused; they ask me if it is the dray the Pilgrim Fathers used. My wife declares she'd rather walk, and proper pride maintain, than ride with me around a block in that ancestral wain. And thus the motor game is played upon the trustful chump, whose last year's model looks decayed and ready for the dump. My van is just as fine as silk, so far as chugging goes; but people of the critic ilk turn up the scornful nose; its hood is badly out of date, the windshield slant is vile, the body lines, which should be straight, bulge out in ancient style. And so I'll have to buy a gig that's up-to-date and new; and in six months, I'll bet a fig, 'twill be a has been too.

CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Domestic Happenings of Other Days

THE CAPTURE OF WINBURG.

On the fifth of May, 1900, Canadian troops, in conjunction with the Imperial, entered the strategic town of Winburg, South Africa as victors. They had been chasing the Boers in the fight to maintain South Africa for the Empire. As they marched into the town from the one side General Botha, destined to win for himself great glory, under Britain's banner, galloped out on the other side with 500 Germans and Dutch troopers who served under him.

It had been a hard place to take and several of the Canadians had paid the extreme cost of war. The naval guns—the "Ocean Cavalry"—had contributed their share to the capture and a few prisoners had been captured in the fighting preceding the taking of the town. The siege guns with their heavy shells and a range of six miles had terrified the Boers so that when the Vets river was reached the enemy fled. The town of Winburg lay just ahead but the Canadians were anticipating a hard fight to enter that place. The passes to the town were easily defended and it was thought that the Boers would make a hard fight with the forces that had been driven from Taba Mountain and Hout Nek by the Britishers. But the Canadians at Brandford delay might make capture so they passed through the town without offering any serious resistance to the forces of the British.

As a result when on the fifth of May the soldiers appeared the white flag was flying in the market place and not a shot was fired by Boer soldiers or civilians. The Canadians, having marched 100 miles in thirty days and not a shot fired, were in a good humor. They had won nine times so successfully that they had won the praises of Lord Roberts as well as having taken the towns. They thought they were on a rest for a time. But the Boers were on the run and so the next day they were ordered to continue the chase of the enemy. The order was now "On to Pretoria."

A KITCHEN GARDEN'S MY DELIGHT.

When skies are blue and days are bright A kitchen garden's my delight, Set round with rows of decent box And blowy girls of hollyhocks.

The currant bushes' spicy smell, Homely and honest, I kiss me well. The while on strawberries I feast, And raspberries the sun hath kissed.

Beans all a-blowing by a row Of hives that great with honey go. With mignonette and heaths to yield The plundering bee his honey field.

Sweet herbs in plenty blue borage— And the delicious mint and sage, Rosemary, marjoram, and rue, And thyme to scent the winter through.

Take roses red and lilies white, A kitchen garden's my delight, Its gillyflowers and pinks and cloves And its tall coat of dried doves.

—Katherine Tynan.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Holding His End Up
Sandy had been staying with some friends for about a month, and while he and his host were out for a walk one day they called at a wayside inn for a drink.

As his host was about to pay for it, Sandy stopped him. "Na, na," he said, "I'll not allow it. Ye've been keeping me in everything at yer house for a month, and ye've treated me to the theatres, and cab fares, and paid for all the drinks. I tell ye, I'll have na bit of it; we'll toss for this one!"

—T. N. Baird.

Trades Ups and Downs
"My tailor wants me to pay up." "And mine wants me to pay down."

"What's the difference?" "In one instance he has delivered the goods; in the other he hasn't and won't."

—Boston Transcript.

Caddy Cheek
"I suppose you've seen worse players than I am?" (Silence.)

"I say, I suppose you've seen worse players than I am?" "I heard you, sir, but I'm just thinking."—Judge.

A Real Surprise.
"Where are you going, ma?" asked the youngest of five children.

"I'm going to a surprise party, my dear," answered the mother.

"Are we all going, too?" "No, dear, you weren't invited."

After a few minutes' deep thought: "Say, ma, then don't you think they'd be lots more surprised if you did take us all?"—Pearson's Weekly.

Had His Doubts.
"Figures won't lie!" declared the statistician.

"Maybe you're right," answered the mild-mannered citizen. "And yet, somehow, I can't put implicit faith in the numbers that go up on a taxi-cab register."

A Practical Girl.
"They say that stolen kisses are the sweetest," he said, as they sat on the piazza looking at the moon.

"Indeed?" she said.

"Yes. What do you think about it?" "Oh, I have no opinion at all, but it seems to me if I were a young man I wouldn't be long in doubt whether they were or not."—Boston Transcript.

POLLYANNA AND HER SPIRIT OF CHEERFULNESS

Two Packed Houses See Delightful Play Presented by Halifax Company—A Bright, Wholesome, Joy-Dealing Show.

Preaching her gospel of gladness, Pollyanna arrived at the Imperial yesterday and before many minutes she had every human heart in her audience glowing with gladness and for existing conditions that they were not worse. It was very hard to resist the charm of this optimistic little soul. Dropped suddenly into a village of hypochondriacs, she spread her spirit of gladness with a lavish hand, banished gloom and made her subjects happy in an instance which had before her arrival been a permanent affliction.

Presented by the Majestic Theatre Stock Company of Halifax, the company received an admirable presentation at two performances yesterday. The cast was well chosen and the whole play, which abounded in neatly combined humor and pathos, was presented in an admirable manner. Miss Edna Preston, who labored in the part of Pollyanna, a couple of thousand and more of admirers to her already lengthy list. She told her simple story of childhood adversity with a lightness and buoyancy which mingled tears and smiles. Under the rays of her happy disposition, the time-encrusted souls of her aunt, Miss Polly Harrington, a part equally handled by Miss Emma De Weale, and the chronic grouch, John Pendleton, whose part was played in an admirable manner by John Wintrop, were completely thawed and after the transformation started to radiate the spirit of optimism, with which Pollyanna's whole being was saturated.

A strong vein of wholesome Irish humor was injected into the piece by Miss Marion Cheater, who portrayed the character of Nancy, maid of all work in the home of Miss Harrington, and to whom fell a great share of the success of the piece. Her spasmodic outbursts in the typical accent of the green isle cause the house to rock with mirth. Miss Cheater is an old friend of the St. John players, having won considerable success here in past years as a member of the Thompson-Woods Stock Company.

Miss De Weale was also a former hearty local favorite in the days when Kirk Brown delighted St. John audiences.

The groundwork of the story of Pollyanna was admirably told by Mrs. Carmody and Mrs. Gregg, village gossips, played by Dorothy Murray and Miss Henrietta Floyd respectively. Several in the audience, however, doubted Miss Floyd's claim to femininity, but all events she gave a finished performance.

As the very human Dr. Chilton, James S. Barrett gave a clever performance, and did also Robert Dobbins in the part of Bleecker, Pendleton's butler. The role of Jimmy Bean, the orphan lad, was taken in the early stages of his career by Miss Frances Grayson, and later in life by Robert Lynn. Miss Grayson lost nothing in her portrayal of the character and Mr. Lynn demonstrated all the shy awkwardness and impulsiveness which a seventeen-year-old lad will exhibit in a meeting with Pollyanna. After her return from hospital was a particularly fine piece of work.

It would be unfair not to mention Soham, the kitten and the puppy which entered the Harrington household at the same time as Pollyanna and played their silent parts throughout the play. Taken as a whole the play was a real treat and well merited the packed houses and the excellent reception with which it was greeted at both matinee and evening performances yesterday. It is only to be regretted that the company could not stay another day or two to allow more to see it. But those who did not witness either performance should be glad that there were some people in the city who were able to be taught the clean, wholesome, optimistic lesson which Pollyanna is spreading broadcast.

FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO BERLIN CHOSEN.

Paris, May 4.—(Havas).—Maurice Herbet, former chief clerk of the foreign office, has been designated by the government as the new French ambassador in Berlin, his appointment to become effective when the Allies resume full diplomatic relations with Germany.

CANON SHATTOP AT KINGS COLLEGE CONVOCATION.

Montreal, May 4.—Rev. Canon A. P. Shattop, rector of the Church of St. James the Apostle, left last evening for Windsor, N. S., to deliver an address at the convocation at Kings College.

PROHIBITION PAYS.

Sir—I was greatly interested in reading the last article by Bird S. Coler, commissioner of the department of public welfare, which was printed in the latest issue of the Evening Post Magazine. Not only do I rejoice with him in the decrease of crime and pauperism, which he attributes to prohibition, but I

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am also concerned as a taxpayer. According to his statement, the expense of his department and those of the city magistrates' courts have fallen away since prohibition became effective. This statement indicates that there will be a surplus in the appropriations for these departments for this year and that their expenses for 1921 will be greatly reduced.

JOSEPH GREEN PURCELL, New York, April 26.

A GENERAL ELECTION DUE.

(Ottawa Citizen.)

Even before the war against autocracy and bureaucracy in Europe, the British people held a general election in 1906 and two general elections in 1910. They were preparing for another general election when the war began. At the present time the British public is discussing another general election—this time a coalition government in the United Kingdom, elected on the armistice wave of sentiment in 1918, is no longer a true mirror of the nation. An election in Great Britain this year would possibly result in a majority for Labor in co-operation with the free Liberals. Some conservative statesmen are disposed to help along this political adjustment. They believe that a general election would help to bring forward good men in the Labor movement, with more administrative ability than some of the present leaders of the parliamentary labor party. A general election in Canada would similarly be to the advantage of the Canadian people, by bringing new men into public life, where new men are certainly needed, as well as restoring the principle of responsible government through a representative parliament.

NEW MOTOR TRUCK RATES.

The city solicitor of Toronto is preparing a by-law in accordance with the new scale for motor trucks as approved by the police commission of that city. The figures given in the following table are per hour and per half-hour, and become effective on May 1, just in time for the owners of trucks to reap a rich harvest on moving day:

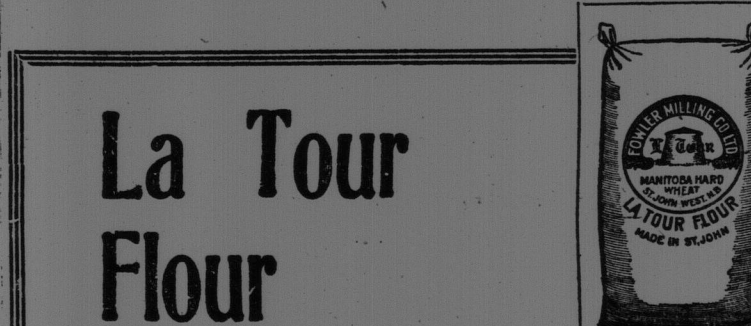
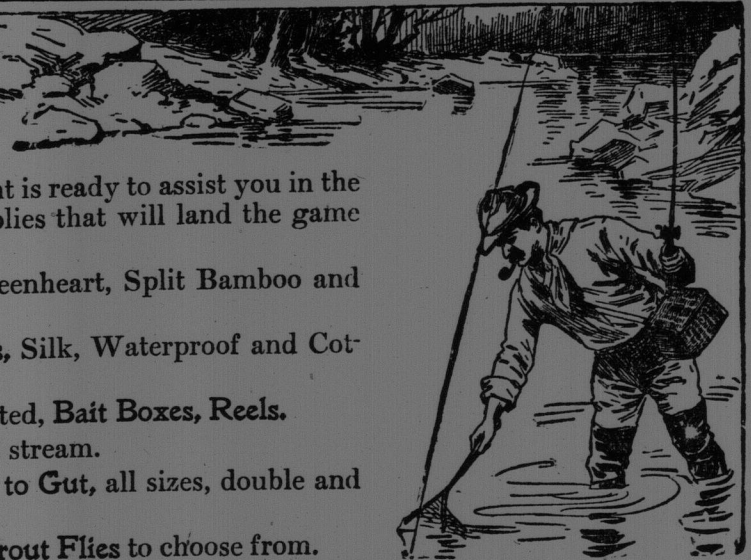
	Old rate.	New rate.
One-ton truck	\$2.00	\$2.25
Two-ton truck	1.25	1.50
Three-ton truck	1.75	2.00
Four-ton truck	2.25	2.50
Five-ton truck	3.00	3.25
One-horse wagon	1.00	1.25
Two-horse wagon	1.50	1.75

It is estimated that with two men to a five-ton truck the latter vehicle will cost about \$8 an hour to hire.

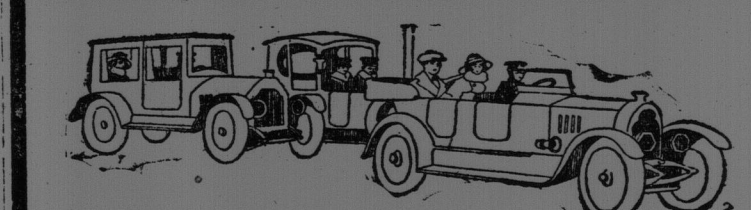
A PROHIBITION REFERENDUM.

(Victoria Daily Times.)

Objecting to a referendum on the liquor question, our morning contemporary says: "The statesmanlike course would be for the government to take its courage in its hands and devise such a measure as will combine both drinkers and non-drinkers in a league which will prevent whatever abuses have existed in the past in the liquor traffic." The gov-



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