

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1919.

CIVIC ADMINISTRATION.

One of the strongest features of Commission Government, so we were told some years ago, would be found in continuity of policy, by means of which there would be no unnecessary disturbance with the systematic administration of all departments. Unfortunately that prediction, like many others in connection with commission government, has not been borne out, and lack of continuity has interfered very seriously with departmental affairs during the past year or two. The Water and Sewerage Department, for instance, was getting along very well under the supervision of Commissioner Wigmore, who enjoyed the assistance of an engineer of long experience. Mr. Wigmore resigned from the Board of Commissioners and Mr. Hilyard was elected in his place. Regardless of what the new commissioner's policy may have been, the Water and Sewerage Department suffered through the change by the introduction of a new and inexperienced man who had to become acquainted with the work, endeavor to fit in with the ideas of his predecessor, and formulate new policies for himself. The death of the city engineer created another difficulty, for Mr. Murdoch through many years had acquired an intimate knowledge of the water and sewerage system of the city which his successor in office could not be expected to possess and which can only be gained by long experience. After six or eight months' service, Commissioner Hilyard dropped out and was succeeded by Mr. Jones, who is now confronted not only with the task of learning the work for himself, but attempting to link up his ideas with those of Mr. Wigmore and the variations of policy introduced by Mr. Hilyard. As a result of this chain of events there is now no one in the City Hall who possesses an accurate knowledge of the affairs of this department, as was the case two or three years ago, and because of this condition there must of necessity be a lack of co-operation between the Water and Sewerage and the Public Works departments.

When Commissioner Fisher indicates a desire to pave certain streets, he is able to learn only with difficulty whether or not the Water and Sewerage Department is prepared to permit that work to be done and whether the pipes under such streets are in reasonable condition. The suggested programme for paving this year has been held up very largely because of this as well as by lack of energy on the part of the commissioner in charge. On the other hand the proposals which have been made touching replacement of water mains have failed so far to receive the unanimous approval of the Council because of the fact that the information covering these replacements and extensions is not sufficiently complete to justify action.

Commissioner Wigmore was able to carry on a lot of work from revenue account. The programme which the present Commissioner of Water and Sewerage outlined a day or two ago demands capital expenditure for the entire amount. Still, even under the conditions, it is advisable that necessary work be undertaken at the earliest possible moment, both to provide employment for men who are now idle and to permit the construction of permanent pavements on city streets next spring.

PEACE IN SIGHT.

Germany accepts the terms of peace, and if the Allied programme is carried out signatures will this week be affixed to the most momentous document in the history of the world. This acceptance on the part of what remains of the once great German Empire is, however, only incidental, for with or without consent these terms will be enforced, and indeed the apparent acquiescence of Germany in the settlement is not generally regarded as any guarantee of an intention to honestly respect the provisions of the treaty. Too often has the pledged word of the Hun been forgotten, and even within a few hours of formal settlement, the sinking of the interned warships in Scapa Flow adds to the evidence of Germany's intention to evade in every possible manner the promises she is compelled to make. With this in mind, Allied statesmen have felt compelled to include in the treaty provisions which guarantee, in so far as human intelligence can foresee, the compliance of the defeated nation with the conditions imposed, and if Germany escapes in future years the penalties now provided, such release will be in the nature of a reward for good conduct rather than through failure on the part of the Allied nations to enforce their just claims. Germany's final request has been disregarded, and although the military party is again in control, of the government and is making every effort to save the ex-Emperor from punishment, the activities of that group have so far not been crowned with any marked degree of success.

Yet while Germany is at last compelled to unwillingly accept peace, and

cording to the dictates of those whom she has wronged, the world is not at rest. Apart from settlements still to be made with Austria and Turkey, there remain tasks both military and civil which will demand the attention of the Allied powers for some time to come. Today at least twenty distinct military campaigns are in progress in Europe and Asia, and toward the pacifying of those opposing forces the efforts of the greater nations will now be directed. Racial jealousies, the organization of new and independent states, and the greater menace of Bolshevism must be overcome, and in numbers of instances, quite may be restored by a show of arms, the Russian upheaval and its wide-spread disaffection will undoubtedly prove a difficult problem. There are boundaries to be adjusted, economic questions to be settled, claims for reparation determined, and above all, Europe is to be restored. A catastrophe which has turned the world upside down cannot be forgotten in a few months nor will half a dozen signatures on a sheet of paper rebuild the once thriving districts now obliterated, or bring contentment and prosperity to countries so recently laid waste.

SACKVILLE IS SORE.

Sackville announces its intention of going ahead with the construction of stockyards irrespective of what the Federal Government may decide. The people of that progressive town are inclined to the opinion that Sackville has been rather unfairly treated, for it is held by them that the failure on the part of the delegates to agree on that location was due in a measure at least to the attitude of the representatives of our own province who held out in favor of Moncton when both Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island delegates were agreed on Sackville. The contention is offered that this attitude is not in accordance with the growing spirit of Maritime Union and that even considering the recognized advantages of Moncton as a railway centre it would be better to disregard individual opinion in the interests of unanimity than to win out at the cost of provincial enmity. The ultimate choice rests with Ottawa and while the advice of Maritime representatives would no doubt be accepted if unanimous, recommendations made by any one group will be disregarded.

IN WINNIPEG.

It is unfortunately true that the spilling of blood is often necessary to bring people to their senses. In Winnipeg the regrettable affair of a few days ago in which one man was killed and several seriously injured, seems to have brought the contending parties to a realization of what the future might contain unless a speedy settlement were reached. And as a result of this comprehension there is now reason to believe that the differences between certain groups of strikers and their employers will be at once removed and that the sympathetic strike which has become the reality of the situation will be brought to an end.

Some of these days we will have to set apart certain roads, and fix certain hours, where and when the owners of new motor cars and members of their families may practice driving. At the present time the Rotheay and Westfield districts, as well as stretches of the Spruce Lake road, are positively dangerous. Not only are the heads of families keeping busy, but the ambition to drive has spread to the alarm of the older children, with the result that scores of beginners are constantly on the go, to the terror of those who have to walk.

It is unfortunate, even with the desire of hastening the completion of the road, that government work in the vicinity of Riverside should be carried on for seven days in the week. Residents of that district feel that the government might readily consent to a cessation of the bombardment on Sundays.

Germany will sign the treaty, but she will do it with her fingers crossed.

WHAT THEY SAY

The Return Home.
Ottawa Citizen: Alcock and Brown are two young men who have just reached home after sky-larking a bit.

Much is Gained.
New York World: The late Dr. T. Edward Mears of Philadelphia left \$100,000 to Harvard for the study of surgical methods of reforming criminals and mental defective. Much is gained in realizing that there is surgery for crime short of guillotine and noose.

Collective Bargaining.
Edmonton Strike Bulletin: Collective bargaining is the right of any individual to belong to a labor union if he so desires, and the right of all such unions in a given industry to form themselves into a council to conduct negotiations through their council.

When negotiations have succeeded and schedules are agreed to they shall be signed to cover all trades negotiating within the industry mentioned.

Thinks It Serious.

Toronto Globe: The serious feature of the Senate's action is that it discloses what is no doubt a settled intention to maintain the traffic in liquor entering Canada from foreign countries, and also passing from Province to Province. The Provincial Legislatures, according to the best legal advice, according to the best any citizen from bringing in liquor for his own use from abroad or from any other Province of the Confederation.

Something That Bites Hard.

Hamilton Herald: The Ottawa speech, heard during the present session of Parliament, which has made the deepest impression in the country, was not made by a statesman or politician. It was made by Mr. Paton, of the Shewan-Paterson Manufacturing Company, to the cost-of-living committee—little speech in which he said that his mills were not built for the glory of God.

The Unchanging Hun.

Kingston Whig: The psychology of the Hun has not altered through the ages, and has special training of the last three or four generations of Germans has intensified the constitutional racial bias a thousandfold. Honor and fair play, and playing the game for the game's sake, have been abolished from their ethics, and bluff, subterfuge, chicanery and plain dishonesty have been bred into their very fibres. They recognize no superior but brute force. They regard leniency in any form as a sign of fear and incompetency.

And as when they were in their great extremity—granted an armistice, they construed it as a sign that the Allies were either afraid or unable (or both) to press on.

A BIT OF VERSE

'TIS SUMMER TIME.

The sun draws nearer on his rounds,
Great joy and wealth are in his bounds.

'Tis Summer time,
'Tis Summer time.

Don't you hear the skylark singing?
Canterbury bells are ringing.

'Tis Summer time,
'Tis Summer time.

Now the young birds are swinging.

'Tis Summer time,
'Tis Summer time.

Neither earth nor crown is wearing,
Countless maidens train are bearing.

'Tis Summer time,
'Tis Summer time.

Can't you see the grain fields glowing?
Mong the leaves plump fruits are showing.

'Tis Summer time,
'Tis Summer time.

The sun draws nearer on his rounds,
Great joy and wealth are in his bounds.

'Tis Summer time,
'Tis Summer time.

Port Hope, June 19th.

A BIT OF FUN

Friend—But surely you, a millionaire, have little to complain about.

Munition Magistrate—Oh, I don't know. The multi-millionaires treat us like so much dirt!

Judge—Are you positive the prisoner is the man who stole the horse?

Witness—I was, your lordship, till that lawyer cross-examined me. Now I'm not sure that I didn't steal it myself!

"After all," said the baseball referee to himself, as the police escorted him to the railway station, "I've not one so base as to have my trousers nearly all my clothes off and most of my hair out, and that in pretty nearly all bruises. But I've got my return ticket."

The same old sins and sinners occupy the stage of life, but they furnish a multitude of variety shows.

Her "Coming Out."
Mrs. De Smyth—Now, I want you to save me an extra supply of flowers next week. My daughter Alice is coming out, you know.

Proprietor of Flower Stand—Yes, mum, I'll save 'er the very best, pore thing. Whatever was she put in for?

Rube Turned Laugh on Wit.
The brilliant wit of the bar looked at the moon-faced farm laborer, winked at his friends, and whispered, "Now we'll have some fun."

"Have you been married?" he began.

"Yes," stammered the laborer.

"Whom did you marry?"

"A w-woman, sir."

"Come, my good man, of course it was a woman. Did you ever hear of anyone marrying a man?"

"Yes, sir; my sister did."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

An Airy Farm.
The triplane, making a twelve-hour journey from London to Hong Kong, had got into difficulties among the clouds. Something was wrong with the engine, for the customary speed of the triplane had considerably slackened.

"Good heavens," cried the skipper, "we shall be half a second late! What makes her go so slow?"

"Why, sir," said the engineer, "we're passing through the Milky Way, and the propeller's full of butter."

A Great Success.
Mrs. Finnegan had her doubts about adopting the new patent carpet sweeper, but the travelling agent sang its praises so well that eventually she ordered one. Some few weeks after delivery the agent, being in the district, looked her up.

"How do you like the new carpet sweeper I sold you, Mrs. Finnegan?"

"Much better than the old-fashioned broom, sir."

"Better, indeed, I should say so! It beats the old man hollow. I can knock out Finnegan as far again with this wani!"

Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Yesterday when pop came home he saw 3 yellow stanes on the parlor carpet, and he called ma and ma had never saw them before, so they called me and I had saw them both before, saying, it wasn't my fawit, ma, it wasn't my fawit, pop, it was a ackerbat me and Puds Simkins saw at the show Saturday afternoon.

O, indeed, I'm sorry I was out when he called, sed pop.

He didn't call pop, I sed, he did tricks at the theatre, he took a long pole with a little jump on the top of it and he balanced it on the end of his chin like anything, you awt to of saw him, pop.

Pardon me for interrupting, but has this anything to do with these stanes? sed pop, and I sed, Yes sir, I'm coming to it, and after that he went down stairs on his hed just as if he was going down on his feet only he was going down on his hed, you awt to of saw him, pop.

No doubt, but these stanes? sed pop, and I sed, Yes sir, I was just coming to that, and then he walked on a title rope and when he got out on the middle of it he layed down and smoked a cigar as if he thawt he was home sumwars, G pop, you awt to of saw him.

Have you explained about the stanes yet? sed pop, and I sed, I'm neerly up to that, pop, and then what do you think he did, pop?—he took 2 raw eggs and put them on the floor and jumped rite on them and they didn't brake or anything, and then he broke them in a glass to show they was really raw, you awt to have saw him, pop, G.

Ha, the plot thickens, and I suppose you tried it. It wasn't necessary to have a glass handy to prove the eggs were raw, was it? sed pop.

No sir, he must have had a awfll lite, I sed, and ma sed, Ware did you get the eggs? and I sed, Out of the glass in the ice box, and ma sed, The best eggs, and look at that carpit, Willyum, you must punish him for this.

Benny, sed pop, all ambitious men must suffer for their mistakes, and your mistake was in choosing the parlor insted of some nootral territory like the back street.

And after supper I had to stay in and clean up the stanes while the fellows was wiseling for me outside.

RECORD FLIGHT

ESTABLISHED BY
AMERICAN LIEUT.

Covered 140 Miles in Sopwith
Plane in the Remarkable
Time of 61 Minutes.

New York, June 25.—A record flight from Atlantic City, N. J., to New York was established today, when Lieut. Kenneth H. Murray, formerly on the American air service, piloted his airplane over the route, 140 miles, in sixty-one minutes. The time was officially recorded by the Aero Club of America.

The plane flown by Lieut. Murray is of the small scout type, a Sopwith "camel," and the same design as that used by Captain M. R. James, who was lost while attempting to fly from Boston to Atlantic City.

CONSPIRATORS WILL
BE TRIED JULY 3RD

Winnipeg Strike Leaders,
Charged With Seditious
Label, Will be Heard in the
City Police Court.

Winnipeg, Man., June 25.—William Irvine, R. B. Russell, Alderman A. A. Heaps, George Armstrong, R. E. Bray and Alderman John Queen, strike leaders arrested a week ago, will be tried in the city police court, July 3, on charges of seditious libel and seditious conspiracy.

They were remanded by Magistrate McDonald in special court this afternoon, on the request of A. J. Andrews, prosecutor for the Dominion Government.

A. Pritchard, S. Blumenberg, Matthew Charltonoff, Oscar Schopfer, and Moses Amaloff were given a similar remand.

ACQUITTED OF
MURDER CHARGE

Sydney Barber Accused of
Murdering His Partner Set
Free by Jury.

Sydney, N. S., June 25.—At an evening session of the Supreme Court, Judge Drysdale presiding, the jury returned a verdict of acquittal in the case of Philip Karasak, charged with the murder of Toni Gumiz, his partner in their barber shop on Lingard Road last month. At a late hour, this afternoon, Karasak took the stand in his own behalf and admitted knowing Gumiz with the hammer, but says he did it only in self-defence, because Gumiz was coming at him with a razor.

A Wise Dad.

"The boy wants to keep pigeons."

"Why not let him?"

"I never could get any fun cleaning out a pigeon loft, and I'd be the one who'd have to do it."

THE ICE SHORTAGE—HOW
TO COPE WITH IT.

The shortage of ice this summer, due to the unusually mild winter, is more serious than is generally known. The ice supply for this year is about one-third of that of last summer. Ice dealers are urging the greatest economy in the use of ice.

The serious effect that an empty ice box has on a refrigerator is well known. It is next thing to impossible to keep food fresh or even fit to eat. The obnoxious gases that arise when the ice box is empty or the ice low are insupportable, to say the least. These are the things that housewife will have to cope with this season.

Keeping the ice box and refrigerator scrupulously clean will help a great deal. Snowflake Ammonia dissolved in water makes an excellent solution to do this cleaning it will be found. It cuts all grease and will remove the refrigerator. Snowflake may be obtained from any grocer.—Advt.

MASSACHUSETTS

RATIFIES SUFF
AMENDMENT

Antis Made a Big Fight,
Wishing to Refer Question
to the People.

Boston, June 25.—Massachusetts today completed ratification of the woman suffrage amendment to the Federal Constitution. The House, by a vote of 188 to 47, declared in favor of it after an unsuccessful attempt by anti-suffrage leaders to have the matter referred to the people at the next election. The Senate voted 34 to 5 a week ago.

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