



St. John's Municipal Council. PUBLIC NOTICE.

All persons who have not paid their City Taxes are hereby notified that if payment is not made by October 30th, legal proceedings will be taken to recover the same.

By order,
J. J. MAHONY,
Actg. Sec.-Treas.

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Parsons, The Auto Man.

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oct16,81,ead

NOTICE TO OUR CUSTOMERS.

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Dr. Lehr, DENTIST, Has removed to Strang's Building, 329 Water St.,

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EMPIRE HALL (formerly Bine Patee Hall), cor. Gower Street and King's Road, may be hired for small dances or meetings. Rates: Evenings \$12 up. Afternoons \$8. Apply W. F. POWER, Manager. Jan2,17

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Some Famous Fasters of the Past.

The long-continued fast of Lord Mayor MacSweeney, of Cork, and other Sinn Féin prisoners has drawn public attention to former persons who have abstained from food for a lengthened period in recent years.

Modern history is not lacking for instances of persons who not only abstained from food for abnormal periods, but who suffered no inconvenience, except, perhaps, a slight weakness. In fact, so beneficial has fasting been for some that it was eloquently advocated as a cure for almost any malady.

But how long can one go without food? The generally accepted figure seems to be forty days, although Alexander Jacques, a veteran of the Franco-Prussian War, is believed to have abstained from the delights of the table for fifty days. He accomplished that a quarter of a century ago in the London Aquarium, and he is usually held up as the "champion."

It was a United States citizen, however, who was the pioneer of all modern fasters, Dr. Henry Samuel Tanner, a Minneapolis physician.

The man who attained the most widespread notoriety and probably the one who attracted all the converts to fasting after his time was Doctor Tanner. Day after day newspapers followed the course of his experiment, and doctors and laymen all over the world told him what to do and how to reach the best results. New York newspapers established watchers to see that the test was genuine.

One of these watchers was E. Cholmeley Jones, a Philadelphia theatrical man, then a newspaperman. Mr. Jones was profoundly impressed by the fact, but especially by the personality of Doctor Tanner.

"He was a man who was perfectly sincere," said Mr. Jones. "He was wholly free of any desire of gain or emolument, and he made his test for its scientific value."

Dr. Tanner's Experience.

After a series of negotiations with Dr. William A. Hammond, a widely known specialist of the metropolis, and with others, Doctor Tanner left Minneapolis and took up his home in Clarendon Hall, on Twelfth street, just east of Fourth avenue, New York.

The fast began on Monday, June 28, 1880, and lasted until Saturday, August 7. In that forty days Doctor Tanner ate nothing and drank a little water. In the early days of the fast he took a little exercise, walking in the neighborhood and riding through Central Park. Up on Morningside drive he found a pump with excellent drinking water.

Every precaution was taken to guard against possible reception.

On one occasion, Mr. Jones said, Thomas B. Connelly, who was then managing editor of the Herald, visited Clarendon Hall. The reporter assigned to watch Doctor Tanner and "cover" the story had stepped out for lunch.

Connelly was furious. Immediately he ordered that two men be assigned to watch the physician by day and two by night. He ordered that every one keep at some distance from Doctor Tanner, and so strict, finally, was the regimen that he was not allowed to use a handkerchief for fear that in its folds he might secretly convey food to his mouth.

As the end of the fast drew near, thousands of persons from every section of the earth advised Doctor Tanner to be careful as to how he broke his fast. Koster & Ball's Music Hall, then the great centre of vaudeville entertainment, was selected for that event.

Doctor Tanner laughed, and, according to Mr. Jones, he ate a big porterhouse steak, half a watermelon, two pies and washed it down with three quarts of milk. The spectators were horrified, expecting that the physician momentarily would drop over dead. But he felt no ill effects and he lived until December 30, 1918, his death coming at the advanced age of eighty-eight.

The Case of Giovanni Succi.

The wires had not cooled with the result of Doctor Tanner's experiment when almost every city in the United States and Europe sent forth its champion faster.

The most widely known of these was an Italian, Giovanni Succi, whose vogue as an exhibition faster lasted well into the twentieth century. Succi said he had learned to fast in Africa, when he withstood an attack of tropical fever. In 1886 he exhibited in Milan and abstained from food thirty days.

He lived a normal life and devoted himself to athletics.

Four years later he went to New York after fasting for a time in England. He started his fast in the United States on November 6 and finished December 21. Koster & Ball's was the scene, and although he was never left without watchers, considerable doubt was expressed as to the genuineness of the fast.

As late as 1906 Succi was mentioned in the newspapers, and a cable dispatch from Geneva told how he had fasted thirty days, losing only nine pounds in weight and remaining in excellent physical condition. Nothing but water and lemon soda passed his lips.

Succi's success stimulated a Hungarian named Sacco, and Sacco man-

aged to better Succi's record slightly. The Hungarian tried a fast of fifty days, but failed after the forty-fifth day. That was performed in London in the first three months of 1906. He had drawn twenty-two bottles of water and smoked cigarettes incessantly. He was weak at the end of the experiment, but otherwise his health was good.

The following year he again attempted a fifty-day fast, but lasted forty-six days. That is said to be the record, and perhaps better authenticated than a host of others.

A Philadelphia FASTER.

For example, there was the case of Mrs. Rudolph Weber, who is still living somewhere in the northern section of Philadelphia. It was claimed for her that she went 100 days, subsisting on nothing but water and orange juice. Her physician was Dr. R. Straube. That was in June, 1910, and she hit upon the fasting idea as a cure for ulcers. Doctor Straube said the other day that she was cured, but that he could not recall how long the fast had lasted.

Every physician knows of the classic cases of pathology. An English woman, her reason unhinged, went without food fifty days and swallowed nothing but water, and on one occasion two teaspoonfuls of brandy. Another instance is that of the "Market Harborough fasting girl," nineteen years old, who abstained from food from April, 1874, until December, 1877, but she used morphine constantly.

Similarly morbid was the case of a Welsh girl, Sarah Jacobs, whose troubles were told to the world in 1868. Her parents declared that she had not eaten anything for months, but a remarkable feature was that she failed to lose flesh.

Doubting Thomases suggested that a systematic test be arranged. That was done. For a few days she seemed to be in good health. Then her body became cold, and those who conducted the test told her parents to feed her. But they refused, saying that her condition was not unusual. In the meantime visitors enriched the family with tips. On the eighth day the young woman died of acute starvation. The parents were arrested and convicted of manslaughter.

While no definite figures have ever been published, it is well known that Indian fakirs have managed to live for long periods without food. Some of them have been able to suspend all their vital functions to a point closely akin to complete collapse.

Short-Period Experiments.

Fasting for periods shorter than forty days have been comparatively common. Milton Rathbun, a grain dealer, of Mount Vernon, N.Y., in June, 1899, went thirty-five days with nothing but mineral water as food. He weighed 207 pounds when he started and 164 pounds when he finished, a loss of forty-three pounds. He fasted because he wanted to reduce weight, fearing that his gradual increase might bring on apoplexy. His friends called him a fool, but he persisted, going to his place of business every day and at the end of the fast swore that he felt like a boy again.

Probably the most distinguished of the fasters was William E. Chandler, former Senator from New Hampshire. For twenty days he fasted, the delights of Washington cooking. His wife gave him an excellent example, for she likewise went without food for the same length of time. William Stewart, former Senator from Nevada, a colleague of Senator Chandler, also submitted to the heroic treatment for eighteen days, and Mrs. Stewart ate nothing for thirty days.

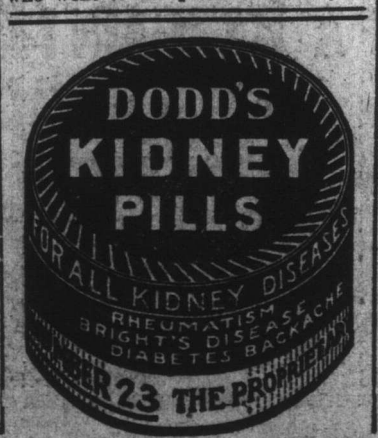
Woman Suffrage.

ST. JOHN, N.B.—Those who have been advocates of woman's suffrage profess to find in the New Brunswick general election results more than sufficient evidence to substantiate their arguments in favor of the wider franchise.

This was the first election in New Brunswick in which all the women had the right to vote and there was considerable curiosity regarding the way in which they would meet the opportunity to assume political responsibilities.

The size of the vote seems to have settled the oft-made assertion that the women would not take the trouble to vote. They did vote, and apparently in almost as large numbers as the men. In fact, in some of the city polling places, the returning officers said that they had had more women voters than men.

Throughout the province the figures indicate that the proportion of women who went to the polls was nearly as



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great as the proportion of male voters, and the size of the women vote was a surprise to many.

Another Argument Gone.

Another stock argument of the opponents of woman suffrage—that the women simply would vote as their men folk did and would not affect the issue—received a body blow. Undoubtedly the majority of the women did vote in the same way, but a sufficiently large number voted according to their own ideas to make them a factor which must be considered very seriously by any political party or candidate in future elections.

Ballot is Criticized.

The provincial system of balloting is a survival of the dark ages, and one which makes independent voting difficult. The official ballot is simply a blank piece of paper on which the voter is expected to write the names and initials of the persons for whom he or she wishes to vote. Printed ballots, furnished by the candidates bearing the names of their own ticket are accepted and these may be modified by scoring out some of the printed names and writing in any of the opposite party. This system is inclined to discourage split tickets and it was thought that the women would vote the straight ticket in most cases rather than run the risk of spoiling their ballots. They did not do so, in St. John at least. At least as many women as men split their tickets to vote for the men of their preference.

This preference was ruled not only by political considerations, but also by matters of principle and morals. The defeat of more than one candidate is considered due to the objections which the women had to their stand on the temperance question or to other and more personal matters.

It is believed that the extension of the ballot to the women will justify the claims made that it will have a tendency towards higher standards in

public life and a more rigid insistence on higher personal standards on the part of candidates who seek election to public office.

American women have established schools to teach their sex how to use the ballot. How many men can qualify as teachers?

Remnants of the Great War.

We came upon them in a remote corner of the wrecked country between Albert and Bapaume, writes W. H. Armit in a London paper. Two grizzled and scarred veterans in khaki of the caricatured type, they sat upon a couple of rusty petrol tins, smoking their pipes as they meditated on that portion of the new world within their ken. Except for a quick glance from under bushy, grey eyebrows they exhibited not the faintest interest in our approach.

"Very quiet here now," I opened rather faintly, and received a monosyllabic answer in which there was little sound and less enunciation. Venturing further, I quizzed in with the desire to be informed what they were doing so far removed from everything and everybody.

Taking his pipe out of his mouth and using it to indicate an old dump of sorts discernible in a declivity, which may have been a mine crater, one of them said laconically: "Guarding that."

There was the flicker of a grin about the jaw of the other, as they exchanged looks of self pity which were intended not to be lost on inquisitive callers. As the only possible habitations within miles were a few old army huts, I daresay my demeanor expressed amusement, but under the influence of a cigar the speaker expanded.

Marooned on a Battlefield.

"They dumped that scrap heap there

after cleaning up, a matter of many months ago, and we were left to see that the surrounding population of which you might say there ain't any—don't run away with it. Not that there's much worth pinching that I see. Anyhow, 'ere we've been put, and 'ere we 'ang on. Nothing ever 'appens, and it's seldom anyone comes near. I think they've forgotten us."

I murmured something about rationing, and from the look of resigned and patient virtue which sanctified their countenances it was borne in upon me that these old soldiers were not without a commissariat of more than negligible consequences. I suspected they had found means of doing themselves well, and that they had known tighter corners in life than being marooned in summer exile on the uplands of Picardy.

"Some day you will be remembered and relieved," I inquired. "I offered, as I sauntered off."

"Well," replied the second man, with a show of interest and a wink, "our officer does come round now and then. He said something the last time about Government sales, so it's not for the duration of the peace."

"And in the meantime?" I called over my shoulder, as they settled themselves among the petrol tins with elevated feet and far-away looks directed towards the high ridges. Waving a farewell with cigar-laden fingers, the answer I expected came floating through comfortable rings of blue smoke—

"We carry on!"

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OYSTERS in the Shell, arrived 40-day at BEARNS', 30 cents dozen.—oct20,81