

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1921.

PORTLAND AGAIN.

To correct the Globe's statement of last night, but not acrimoniously, it might be explained that owing to the failure of the Grand Trunk and the appointment of a Board of Management composed of two members selected by the Government, two by the Grand Trunk and the fifth by the other four, there has been less traffic than formerly to Portland. In other words the policy of the late Government, forced perhaps by the bankruptcy of the Grand Trunk, had already created a diversion of traffic from Portland to St. John. Previously some traffic not originating in Grand Trunk territory and not specifically routed, has through the enterprise of Grand Trunk traffic promoters, found its way to Portland. Now this comes, and will come, to St. John. Will the new Government continue this policy? Until the Government is in full possession and ownership of the Grand Trunk, it will be as powerless as Hanna was to divert the whole trade.

For argument's sake we will assume that the Grand Trunk had made its success of its agreement with the Laurier Government in connection with the G. T. P. How much additional traffic would St. John and Halifax have got? What was the Grand Trunk connection with St. John? Where was its ocean terminal? Portland's capacity would have been overtaxed. Blair knew what would result. W. M. Taff, the arbitrator appointed by the Grand Trunk, charged the association of the Grand Trunk and the G. T. P. as a railway tragedy. But as The Standard said: "It is all wind that blows nobody good." The Grand Trunk failed. The Government took charge, but did not obtain full ownership. This misstep, coupled with the break down of the Canadian Northern, and the control of the G. T. P. and N. E. R. for the first time gives the Government of the country and will give the incoming Government the first real opportunity, as far as railways are concerned, to fulfil their pre-election promises of carrying out the policy of "Canadian Trade through Canadian Channels." In the Globe editorial of last night there is something said about scrapping that portion of the Grand Trunk from Montreal to Portland and that cost \$10,000,000. From a national point of view and from a Maritime Province point of view it would pay to scrap it, if it cost \$50,000,000. Heilgeland was scrapped. St. John and Halifax can do the business that Portland did. Canadian credit and Canadian money bought the railways, and St. John and Halifax as a result are entitled to the trade that the Grand Trunk took to Portland. It is only common sense, a matter of business and patriotism. Turn back the Grand Trunk with its Portland connection to private interests and St. John and Halifax will be where they were ten years ago. Take over the Grand Trunk as a Government road in the interests of Canada and Canadian ports and St. John and Halifax will get the trade that formerly under all Governments went to Portland. Hand over the Grand Trunk to private interests, make a broad guess who these private interests are; and what will St. John get in the way of traffic that they have not today? Is there not danger of their getting less? Let us forget who made the railway blunders. We face a railway situation which means a great deal to the Maritime Provinces and the Ports of St. John and Halifax. A true Canadian railway policy will not leave St. John and Halifax out of the solution. The solution we believe for the present, on account of the Portland end of it, is Government ownership and control. What does The Globe think?

THE MINISTER FROM NEW BRUNSWICK.

A dispatch from the Liberal headquarters at Ottawa dealing with the probable make-up of the Mackenzie King Cabinet, gives the names of likely members from the various provinces; but it is somewhat significant that in the case of New Brunswick the dispatch reads "a member to be chosen from outside the elected representatives." This is a very merry jolt for Messrs. Cope, Lager, Morison, Targoon and Michaud who apparently are not regarded at headquarters as suitable Cabinet timber at all. This is in accord with the view we expressed in these columns a day or two ago, but coming from a newspaper supporting the other side of politics, it might not be taken very seriously by the gentlemen concerned. However, when the same opinion is voiced by the powers that be at their own headquarters, they cannot so readily disregard it. The main question is, which of them is best to replace Mr. King?

Apparently Mr. G. Harold Perkins, the political writer from Norton, Kings County, has very little opinion of either local legal talent, or of such as is available to him in St. John, for he found it necessary to send all the way to Fredericton for a lawyer to attend and watch his interests at the declaration of the poll in Kings yesterday. However, all the legal acumen that he could summon to his aid, was unable to alter the fact that he was at the bottom of the poll when the votes were counted.

gentleman to be chosen from outside the elected membership? And again, who is this gentleman going to be, the Hon. William Pugsley, the Hon. Walter Foster or the Hon. Peter Veniot? Word comes from the North Shore that the latter is firmly of opinion that he is the one and only person at all fitted to hold down the job as New Brunswick's representative in the Government, whereas a good many of the people in his county are just as convinced that Mr. Targoon, better man for the place, it has generally been assumed that the Hon. William Pugsley would be the Minister from this Province, in case of his party got into power again, but the whole trouble lies in the fact that some one else has got to get out of the way for him, and what is to be the quid pro quo for the retirement?

THE VARIOUS PARTIES.

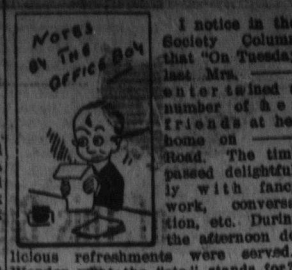
It appears to be pretty well accepted that Hon. Mackenzie King's following in the new House of Commons will not exceed 118, which when the Speaker is chosen from among them, will leave the Government and non-Government forces at 117 each. Mr. King will probably feel a certain amount of consolation in the fact that his opponents are divided into two groups, which having practically nothing in common are not likely to unite to upset his government. The course which the Conservative wing of the opposition will take is of course clear enough. Their policies are well known, and there will be no difficulty in forecasting the lines they will follow in dealing with Mr. King's proposals.

With the so-called Progressive group matters are not so clear. On the tariff and railway issues, the new Government cannot legislate without the assistance of Mr. Cramer and his followers; and on neither question is Mr. King likely to adopt policies in any way agreeable to Mr. Cramer. If he shows good faith and a real belief in the Progressive party as a vital force in Canadian political life, Mr. Cramer must emphasize its differences from the Liberal party, and force things to an issue when matters of principle are involved. If he does not do so, but compromises on support to Mr. King's administration, he will not show good faith to his own followers, and will leave the Progressive movement in the air. The next session of Parliament promises to be one of the most interesting that has been held for many years.

It was quite clear from Mayor Schofield's remarks before the Rotary Club yesterday, that as things stand, the city has very little to expect in the way of cheaper light and power as a result of the development at Musquash. The Government has spent \$2,000,000 largely for the purpose, so it has always been assumed, or coming to the rescue of the city, as against the alleged overbearing attitude of the Power Company. It now develops that after all this expenditure it proper arrangements can be made, the consuming public will be able to get light and power from the Hydro-Electric Commission almost as cheaply as they have been getting it from the company which has been paying the top prices for the coal used to make it. If the Government is going to continue its policy of Hydro-Electric development along the same lines as has been the case at Musquash, and then ask a twelve per cent. return on its outlay the idea of cheaper light and power will remain just a myth, a mere figure of speech.

The London Daily Express has been airing its views, the views presumably of its owner, Lord Beaverbrook, on the recent election in this country, and in the course of its remarks said that "Mr. Meighen proved to be a weak and ineffective leader—ineffective in conference and unwieldy in council. No party could have carried him on to victory." Lord Beaverbrook is just as much entitled to air his views as any one else; but as far as Mr. Meighen is concerned, his Lordship's good word won't do him any good, nor his ill-word any harm. Canadians know Mr. Meighen and the know of Lord Beaverbrook; and of the two they prefer to trust to the judgment of the former.

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Notes on the Office Boy
I notice in the columns that "On Tuesday last Mrs. Miller entered a number of articles at her home on Road. The time passed delightfully with fancy work, conversation, etc. During the afternoon delicious refreshments were served. Wonder what the 'old' stands for?"

A girl happens to know a living in fear and dread that her box will succumb to the attractions of a gushing young widow who lives near him. She says she begins to think it very difficult to keep widows weeds out of the garden of love.

I see that a Princeton professor says that wealth is a disease. I'd like to know where I can catch it.

An Irish paper says that Dhubh-agh is the Gaelic spelling of Duffy. I conclude from this that simplified spelling has made some progress in Ireland, at least in the movement for self government.

Getting down to brass tacks is all right, providing "getting down" doesn't mean "sitting down" on them.

SITUATION WANTED—Stenographer, correspondent, desires to work for some one who does not scold at an employee.

I saw in a Chicago paper, Great country, America!

The girl across the way says one way for a man to make a wife with a married woman is to tell her he is sorry he did not meet her before it was too late. I'll remember this when I get older.

A chap advised me yesterday not to be in too big a hurry to buy Christmas presents. He says if you wait till Christmas Eve, there's always a lot of things left that others don't want that you can pick up cheap.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Good Digestion But No Pep.
(Montreal Herald.)
"We digest the invaders" is an old Chinese proverb and history proves it true. The foreign element can locate in China as a permanent place of residence and not be overwhelmed, absorbed and digested by the ceaseless, natural breeding force of the Chinese people.

The British Premier.
New York Tribune.
Probably no other man has faced so many complicated problems as Lloyd George. His life has been a constant turmoil. He has been so assailed that, as he himself remarks, "a change of trouble is in the nature of a rest." Energizing the British people to win the war, opposing an entrenched machine that, rooted in unity of opinion, had been fired at by the Aquilans from the front and by the Northcliffe press from the rear; at one hour and the next eluding his opponents into so many different settlements; wrangling with Wilson and then with Briand; distrustful by the dominant, social elements of Great Britain, and all the while compelled, on an instant's notice, to repudiate an onslaught in the House of Commons—here is indeed an exemplification of the strenuous life. To come through debilitated, even though battered, is amazing.

Let Us All Hope.
(Halifax Herald.)
The settlement will usher into political existence the Irish Free State. Whether the powers with which it is to be endowed will prove sufficient to satisfy the aspirations of the people, whether the time has come to write the epitaph of Robert Emmet—is as yet uncertain. But if the settlement will bring peace to the island, to replace with order and obedience to law and security for human life and property, it will prove a great boon to the Irish people. And if it marks the beginning of a new and brighter era in the history of Anglo-Irish relations—an era of better understanding and real friendship and co-operation, it will prove to be one of the great landmarks in the history of the British Isles and of the British Empire.

Some Post-Election Reflections.
(Ottawa Journal.)
Many Conservatives who have gone down in the late election will think their defeat is due to the women's vote and attribute it to the fascination which the bargain counter has for womankind. They poked from the political bargain counter Mr. King, because he gave promise of being all that was claimed for him. When they realize his real value, doubtless they will insist on an exchange.

From the remarks of the Government thus far received they are likely to have ample time and opportunity to give their bargain a thorough test, and cause to reflect on the risk that bargain-hunting involves. Those who have chosen him because he had every appearance of being all free trade and was guaranteed to be unshrinkable, will find that he is the old Laurier brand, which made such a fair showing on the bargain counter in 1896, promising free trade as they had it in England, and then, when tested, proved to be not what they wanted and thought they were getting, but the old reliable National Policy the value of which they had never appreciated. They are likely to find the incoming Government equally recalcitrant to the principles they have been professing in opposition.

Judged by the platform of the party in the recent election, a sweeping majority of the electorate throughout the Dominion have joined the Province of Quebec in demanding the Government to have compelled slakers in the great war to assist in fighting for their country. Hereafter any Government that could summon to its aid, a force to enforce military service, however grave the crisis.

The Government ought to improve

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

Me and Sid Hunt had a nickel between us and we wanted to go around and buy a tee from come and take turns biting it. Say Sid little brother Bert was there as usual, Sid saying, Hay Bert, you stay rite here till we come back, do you hear?

Lake fun, ill go ware you go, sed Bert.
Hay, look at hear now, if you start to get fresh ill rite to Santa Claus and tell him not to bring you a darn thing, and he'll do wat I tell him, too; he's a friend of mine, now are you going to stay here? sed Sid.

No I aint, Im going ware you go, sed Bert.
Wate you think of that darn kid, sed Sid, now mind, Bert, ill tell papa on you wen he comes home and he'll make you go to bed erly again tonite like he did last nite, do you want me to tell papa on you?

Yes, wat do I care? sed Bert.
Holey smoke wat do you know about that darn kid, sed Sid, now look at hear, Bert, I's a compiny and I's a crowd, aint you got some smut to know wen youre not wanted?

No, sed Bert.
Wich he aint, and I sed, Aw wate the use of treating him so ruff, maybe he dont understand we dont reely want him. And I sed, Hay Bert, lissen to reason, wat you, me and Sid will be back pritty soon and we aint going enyware special enyways, and if I catch you trying to toll us Im going to give you a good swift kick in the pants, do you understand?

Aw, who wants to follo you? sed Bert.
Proving kindian is the best policy.

After a man had tramped for six weeks looking for a job, he realizes that he hasn't an unconquerable sole.

Remorse—The feeling occasioned by paying the interest on money borrowed to buy an automobile.

The efficiency of the public service by removing officials who were either unnecessary or no longer capable of properly discharging their duties. By an overwhelming vote the people have decided that economy and efficiency in the public service are not as desirable as the perpetuation of positions which have become sinecures and the maintenance of incompetents at the expense of the taxpayers. In view of the popular decision, the incoming administration cannot be blamed if they take the hint and allow the public to get rid of the surplus.

The National Railways are a heritage from the Laurier Government which their successors were obliged to take over to save the country from an impending disaster. The lines, though carefully and efficiently managed, are running at a loss; now that they are giving promise of becoming self-sustaining in the near future, powerful interests covet them, and Sir Lomer Gouin pledged himself during the recent campaign to help them to carry out this policy. Now that he is in position to do so, he can with justice claim that he has a mandate from the people to scrap one of the most valuable assets of the Dominion or give it to private interests. That is what comes of putting trust in bargain-counter statesmen. The people were led to believe that they can free themselves from railway debts by shifting the burden to the shoulders of some of their fellow citizens. From the beginning, under private as well as under public ownership, the people have had to pay for the maintenance of railways prematurely constructed; do they expect that the capitalists who seek pocketfuls of money are so patriotic and philanthropic that they are trying to load themselves with a burden that is felt to be too heavy for the Dominion? Sooner or later, by hook or by crook, they will extract from the public every dollar of their investments with interest. The voters who have given their sanction to such a policy may think that they are scoring a bargain by unloading railways that are not yet self-sustaining, but they are simply robbing themselves to enrich private interests.

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"I started to use Cuticura Soap and Ointment and I used two cakes of Cuticura Soap and two boxes of Cuticura Ointment when I was healed." (Signed) Clifford Yeaman, East Chatham, N. S.

Use Cuticura for every-day toilet purposes. Bathe with Soap, scrub with Ointment, dust with Talcum.

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Use Cuticura Soap shaves without soap.

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Dumbbells Pleased

Large Audience
Hearty Welcome Accorded
Popular and Talented Company in Snappy Revue.

The Dumbbells, composed of the original players who created such a tidal wave of enthusiasm in the Ambassador Theatre, New York City, and which is known on both sides of the water as the famous soldier organization, made its third appearance at the Imperial Theatre last evening. Certainly it was a hearty welcome back which was accorded to this talented company, who present a very snappy revue, with every number a brilliant success from every viewpoint. Incidentally, every member served at least sixteen months in the trenches during the recent European war.

From the first "Bif, Bang, Boom," the opening number, which showed scenes in the trenches, ending with the coming of a messenger proclaiming the Armistice and the transformation scene into a dance number, to the riot of fun, "The Dumbbell Entertainers," the audience knew not one dull moment. They were filled with amazement and admiration for the cleverness of the characterizations, the surprising sweetness of the men's voices, the grace of the "dishes" of the party and artistic presentation of the entire programme.

Ross Hamilton as "Marjorie" seemed of more attractive than ever and "her" delightfully flirtatious ways and very charming singing, brought round of applause. In the skit "Behind the Lines," Charles Maclean gave a most amusing impersonation of the grumpy, sentimental, old French woman, and was equally clever as Mlle. Tress Moutard in the exceedingly funny hospital scene. Leonard Young was splendidly dignified as the Dumbbell "Red Newman," as usual, evoked great applause by his singing, "Oh, Oh, Oh, It's a Lovely War."

The members of the company are: Hamilton, Charles Maclean, Ross Hamilton, Alan Murray, Ian McLaren, Frank Brayford, "Old Newman," Jimmie Gode, Tom Young, Al Plunkett and A. Tennant.

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Four Years Ago
De Valera was not tactful when he said the Sinn Fein stands today where it stood four years ago. The saying reminds the Buffalo Express that probably other American papers, that it was just about four years ago that Sinn Feiners were pelting American soldiers and sailors in the streets of Irish towns.

Backaches and headaches are among the symptoms. In some cases Bright's disease soon develops, others suffer from high blood pressure until hardening of the arteries sets in.

In order to forestall painful and fatal diseases prompt action should be taken at the first sign of trouble.

Mr. A. D. MacKinnon, Kirkwood, Inverness county, N.S., writes:

"I can highly recommend Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills to all suffering from weak kidneys. I suffered from kidney disease for a long time. I was finally told of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, and after using a few boxes was completely relieved. I have also used Dr. Chase's Ointment with the best results, and never fail to recommend these wonderful remedies."

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, two pill a dose, 25c a box, all dealers, or Edmondson, Bates & Co., Limited, Toronto.

The office man and the outdoor worker suffer alike from derangements of the kidneys.

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