

The St. John Standard

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St. John, N. B. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1920.

A COOL PROPOSAL.

The suggestion of Mr. William G. McAdoo, President Wilson's son-in-law, that Great Britain might be glad to dispose of Bermuda and some of her West Indian possessions to the United States, in partial liquidation of her indebtedness to the latter country, besides being a cool piece of impertinence, betrays a lamentable lack of knowledge of British methods. Britain will have to come pretty close to insolvency before she disposes of any of her outlying possessions, no matter how great the inducement. She has had one experience of the kind, and it proved so expensive that it is not likely to be repeated. The greatest mistake Lord Salisbury ever made was to sell Heligoland to Germany. Had that island remained in British hands, the claws of the German fleet would have been clipped off pretty short.

Mr. McAdoo seems to have picked up the idea of purchasing these islands from some remarks made by Lord Rothermere, who, British public man though he is, seems to be so out of touch with British national sentiment that he could suggest this disposal of some outlying portions of the Empire. That the inhabitants of whatever portions it might be decided to sell might have decided opinions of their own regarding the transfer of their allegiance to some other nation does not seem to have entered into the calculations of the authors of this brilliant scheme. As a matter of fact, no sooner had mention of the suggestion of sale reached the islands than indignation meetings were held in all directions.

THE SOCIAL SERVICE COUNCIL.

Matters of the most compelling interest to the community are to be found put forward for discussion in the programme of the Social Service Council for New Brunswick, which is holding its annual meeting in this city at the present time, and are being dealt with by men and women specially qualified to talk upon them. It is a gratifying sign of the times that the moral and physical uplift of the unfortunate classes in society is engaging the sympathetic attention of those of the more fortunate class who have the inclination and opportunity to devote their energies in this direction. The results of these efforts, while they may not be immediately manifest, in all cases, must inevitably lead to greatly improved conditions and the amelioration of much of the misery and suffering which unfortunately is so prevalent in our midst. We cannot afford to treat the mental, moral or physical welfare of any portion of our community with indifference; and the greater the interest taken in this matter, the more satisfactory will be the results.

THE CALL TO MR. HOOVER.

"Senator Penrose says that Mr. Hoover is not his sort of Republican; Mr. Bryan says Hoover is not his sort of Democrat, and Mr. Hearst says that Hoover is not his sort of American. Mr. Hoover agrees cordially with all three and his chances of becoming President of the United States have vastly improved."—Mail and Empire.

Mr. Hoover occupies at the moment, a position in, or, to be quite accurate, just outside of American politics that cannot easily be watched from the history of his own or any other democratic State. It is conceivable that either the Republican or the Democratic party may adopt him as its candidate for the Presidency.

Such a degree of eligibility is open testimony that a prophet, honored deservedly in other countries is not without singular honor in his own. He owes it to his sincere and thoughtful character and splendid record of constructive and reconstructive work. Such a man stands out above the ordinary political personalities. Whether he will actually be put forward as a candidate, and by which party, can as yet only be a matter of speculation. Democratic politics habitually present the President's most loyal adherent, has come out strongly in his favor; and it is certain that he would have a large following in the electorate. But none can forecast the upshot of the long and subtle series of moves and counter-moves that precede nomination.

The United States, however, does not need advice from outsiders in its choice of a President; the interest for them lies in the fact that Mr. Hoover's appearance among the possible candidates heralds a departure from the settled traditions of party politics, with a fresher and wider outlook. Mr. Hoover himself, the man who re-ruled a continent, and benevolently controlled the food supply of the world, is a world figure. Should he be in due course land at the White House, the United States will be fortunate in the possession of a President whose name is already a household word abroad, who has a first hand knowledge of international problems, and who brings no illusions or prejudices to their solution.

"ARE THERE NO CANADIANS?"

A writer in a contemporary magazine that is filling up the various

forms under the Vital Statistics Regulations, the racial origin of the parties has to be dealt with, and that the descriptions "American" or "Canadian" as a nationality will not suffice. The writer concludes as follows:

"If there is no 'Canadian race' today, it is time we created one. It is time 'out people ceased to be classed, in accordance with their origin, as English, French, German or Swede. It is time that all those intending to live in this country, and more especially those born in this country, began to think, speak and live as 'Canadians.'"

A little deeper thought on the part of the foregoing writer might have cleared up his difficulty for him. We have a very mixed population in Canada, and about the only inhabitants of purely Canadian race are the Redskins. We have people, naturalized as Canadian, who have come from all parts of the world. If they make good citizens we are glad to get them.

WHAT THEY SAY

Hope Not Dead.

(Hamilton Herald.)
 In any event—even if the resolution asked for were adopted by the legislature—it is not at all probable that a referendum would be submitted to the people this year. Ontario will not become "bone-dry" yet awhile.

Hard on the Gamblers.
 (Toronto Mail and Empire.)
 The United States Treasury Department has decided that gambling winnings are to be included in income returns, but that gambling losses are not to be deducted. In other words, the Government recognizes nothing but a sure thing.

Many Interested.
 (Toronto Mail and Empire.)
 The Board of Commerce might learn something to its advantage by calling up Canadian distillers to explain their price advances.

Different Teachers.
 (British Whig, Kingston.)
 The day when a farmer's daughter could teach school on a "permit" is gone forever. Teaching is now a skilled service, and as such must be adequately paid for. And the better the pay, the better the service.

Fear Our Whiskey.
 (London Saturday Review.)
 Walking down Oxford street, the other day we saw an extraordinary sight, a long queue of all sorts and conditions of men and women waiting to gain admission to a public house. The queue stretches around the corner of Soho street and at each end was a constable, with a mounted policeman in front of the door. On asking a sergeant the meaning of this protected crowd, we received the laconic answer, "Whiskey!" It is stated in some of the papers that there are large importations of American and Canadian whiskey from the useless stores of those countries. If the Government wish to exercise their powers, legal or illegal, of prohibiting imports let them keep "Bourbon" and "Rye" from British heads and hearts, for they are fiery poisons.

A BIT OF VERSE

TO A WINTER MOSQUITO.

You came to us in lovely June,
 And though we did not greatly care
 About the little trouble of your bite,
 And though we shuddered when you lit
 And bared your fangs to treat us
 So rough.

We sought to make the best of it,
 Said we, "It's June, and that's
 enough.
 It's June, and though mosquitoes sting,
 One cannot hope for everything."

And as the summer waxed and waned
 And still you wheeled your droning
 flight.

We never murmured or complained
 Although you didn't treat us right.
 "It is the Summer time," said we,
 "The time of flowers and of fruit,
 And well we know that there must be
 A little rift in every lute.
 And though you may disturb our rest,
 Still, everything is for the best."

But when the blizzard whistles shrill,
 When snow lies heavy on the ground,
 When we are cold and numb, and aching,
 When the nerve to stick around,
 When, hovering above our bed
 As you are doing every night,
 You whisk the covers from our head
 That you may land your brutal bite,
 We warn you sternly to beware,
 For you are hardly playing fair.

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The Hon. Charles Murphy seems to have surpassed all previous efforts in his vituperative diatribe against Hon. Mr. Rowell last night. The former Secretary of State has on several occasions provided abundant evidence that he is a perfect adept at language which becomes neither a statesman nor a gentleman. Outside of Billingsgate it would be difficult to find his equal, to judge from the report of his remarks which have come down from Ottawa.

A Massachusetts manufacturer, to give his employees a lesson in thrift, said that the waste for the week had been \$177, and as an object lesson threw that amount of money in coin out of the window. The thrifty employees carefully gathered up the money, and their only regret was that they had not wasted twice as much.

Two New York robbers have been sentenced to serve fifty-two years and six months in the penitentiary. The six months really makes the sentence appear excessive.

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

I started to take my bath Saturday morn, and I turned the water on in the bath tub and went up in my room and got undressed and put on my pajamas and my Indian bath robe, thinking, Oosh, I'm sleepy, I wish I was going to bed now instead of taking my bath first, I wonder if a person didn't take a bath for 3 years weather they would feel any worse.

And I sat down on the edge of my bed, thinking, I wonder how high the water is by this time, I wonder if I would have time to take 40 winks, like people do in books, before the tub gets full?

Wich I laid down and started to try, shutting my eyes and starting to count 40, and by the time I counted 15 I was 5 eights asleep and by the time I counted 19 I was too asleep to even count 20, and all of a sudden I woke up with a jerk on account of pope voice tawking 1800 down stairs.

Gosh G, holey smokes, the water, I tawt.

Who the confounded doose turned this water on, yee gods, wat a mess, all over the floor, and pop loud as anything.

Black G, funny cryicks, I tawt.

And I quick ran out in the hall and called down stairs, Hay, pop, will you please do me a favor, will you please turn the water off in the bath tub?

Will you please do me a favor for a few moments, seed pop.

Meaning for me to come down. Wich I did, and pop had one slipper off waiting for me, and I quick put my hands in back of me and got 3 fearse cracks on them and quick took them away and got 4 fearse cracks ware they wasent, and then I had to wipe up the bath room floor, wich it seerteny needed it, and then I took my bath.

A BIT OF FUN

If you are troubled with insomnia go to sleep and forget it.

An amateur artist may mean well even if his designs are bad.

A Hustling Lawyer.

The Yeggs—Well, you got me, all right, mister. I s-pose you're going to turn me over to the bulls.

The Eminent Counsellor—Certainly not. In that case I'd get only a witness fee of a dollar, I'm going to be your attorney. My retaining fee will be this roll of bills I found in your vest. Good night.

Reason Enough.

Miss Smart: "I don't know what's the matter with that little man over there. He was so attentive a few moments ago, and now he won't even look at me!"

Mrs. Blank: "Perhaps he saw me come in. He's my husband."

Surprising.

Elderly Hostess—"So you are the daughter of my old friend Margaret Blank. I was at your christening eighteen years ago—but how you've changed."

Not His Job.

"Is this all you have got to eat?" the traveller asked dejectedly as he looked over the counter display in the railway luncheon.

"Oh, I haven't got to eat it, thank goodness," the attendant responded earnestly. "I only have to sell it."

A Strategic Move.

Presence of mind is a great thing. A boy came running to his father with the news that a man had fallen through the open coal hole. "Clap the cover on quick and call the policeman," said his father. "We must arrest him for trying to steal our coal or he will be suing us for damages."

FRENCH PROPOSAL

FOR SETTLEMENT OF LABOR DISPUTES

Demands That All Means for a Settlement be Exhausted Before Cessation of Work.

Paris, March 9.—(Havas).—The government presented in the Chamber of Deputies today a proposal for the amicable settlement of all labor disputes. The government, while admitting the right of workers to strike, demands that all means for a settlement of disputes be exhausted before cessation of work. The proposal establishes compulsory arbitration in industries whose stoppage would interfere with the economic life of the country.

How You Can Quickly Remove Hairy Growths

(Aids to Beauty.)

A well known beauty specialist advises this treatment for the removal of hair from the face. Mix into a paste some powdered delatone and water apply to hairy surface and after about 2 minutes rub off, wash the skin and every trace of hair has vanished. This method is quick and entirely safe. To avoid disappointment however, it is well to make certain you get genuine delatone.

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