

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1918

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IN THE LAST DITCH.

The promoters of the New Brunswick Power Company's scheme to make the power of St. John pay dividends on watered stock are in the last ditch, out of which mud is being industriously thrown at the city of St. John. They are telling the members of the legislature that this autocratic burling is determined to make the legislature its tool, to inflict grievous injury upon a group of high-minded and philanthropic patriots whose only desire is to confer upon the citizens a great and lasting benefit. The city of St. John is represented as an intolerant community which thinks it owns the legislature, and the members are urged to assert their independence and refuse to be bossed around by Mayor Hayes and his myrmidons.

This is the last resort of a group of money-chasers who tried to "put one over" on the city, and were caught in the act. They have been invited over and over again to tell what they did with the money, but their only answer is a dissertation of the price of coal, the wage scale, and their own merits as war-babies.

The members of the legislature are not so easily deceived. They know the company has no justification whatever for seeking dividends on more than the \$2,057,000 which was outstanding against the plant under the old prosperous company—for it is the same old plant, giving a worse service. The old company was prosperous—so prosperous that the new one was willing to pay \$140 for \$100 of its stock. The old company could have weathered the present period of higher cost of fuel and materials without any trouble. The present company watered the stock and wants dividends on the water. The people of St. John are not responsible for any representations made by the promoters of the deal. The people are entitled to an adequate service at a cost which would provide a fair dividend on an actual investment. They are not attempting to dictate to the legislature. They are simply appealing to it for protection from a group of high financiers who had nothing more patriotic to do in war-time than try to enrich themselves by exploiting a public utility. The members of the legislature know this, and will protect the people's interests. They know that to give this group of frenzied financiers their own way would be to open a door for imitators all over the province. They are not asked, therefore, to protect the people of St. John alone. They are asked to stamp out a vicious principle and protect public utilities from the evils of speculation, which should be entirely eliminated so far as public utilities are concerned.

SENATOR COLBY'S MESSAGE

What will be the net result of the appeal of Senator Colby to the people of St. John? He says very frankly that as a representative of a country which was three years late in entering the war he did not come to offer any advice to the people of Canada; but as the spokesman of a people who are now trying earnestly to do their full duty, and as one with a message from Lord Rhonda, the British food-controller, and also from the French food-controller and minister of agriculture and prime minister, he came to urge the earnest co-operation of Canadians in saving France from famine and the Allies from the calamity of losing the war because of a scarcity of food.

What will we do with his message and that of Mr. Jones, who represents the Canada food board? Well-timed applause at a public meeting has its merits, but it is what the cook does in the kitchen and the man does at the table which will determine whether we are interested in providing the food that is needed in France, where the soldiers of the Allied armies are today holding the Hun at bay.

Senator Colby bluntly says that those who eat white bread are eating the ration of a soldier or the food of a French or Belgian child, because there is not enough wheat available and in sight to supply the needs of the next nine months. Moreover, the food problem will not be removed when the war ends, for there will still be the hungry people and the short supply. Last night's meeting pledged itself by a standing vote to observe the regulations of the Canada food board, and to urge others to do so. This means a careful study of those regulations and an educational campaign throughout the community, for there is no use in trying to blink the fact that a great many people do not yet see that they are called upon to make any personal sacrifice; and if they discuss the matter at all it is to shield themselves behind the food-boards, or to criticize somebody else. The iron sacrifice of the French and the English does not appeal to them.

Now that the situation has once more been presented—and it was presented by Dr. James W. Robertson a year ago and unheeded since—perhaps we shall do better. The women's organizations can do more than any others to popularize a movement which means more personal sacrifice. It is certainly not to our

credit that we go on as we have done at home while our sons are facing death, and now also the possibility of reduced rations, on the battlefield.

Senator Colby's plea and that of Mr. Jones should give a great impetus to the war garden campaign. In the words of a war garden circular—"Every dollar's worth of food you grow will help in winning the war." To forego the use of foods that can be shipped to Europe and to produce food to the limit are the plain tasks of the army at home, behind the army that is facing death in France and Flanders. Senator Colby did not come to us with figures of speech, but grim facts which are vital to the winning of the war.

VOTE ON MONDAY.

Every voter in the city should go to the polls on Monday and vote for two candidates. The kind of city government we shall have for the next two years will depend to a considerable extent upon Monday's choice. There are four candidates, and two of them will be members of the council of five which will conduct our affairs. Personal considerations ought not to figure in the voting. The thing to do is to vote for the two whom the voter believes would prove to be the best administrators. There are many important problems to engage the attention of the new city council. There is harbor commission, which ought to be adopted this year. The city's relations with the New Brunswick Power Company must be completely readjusted. Problems arising out of the war will call for intelligent and well-considered action. We are living in a strenuous period, when occasions arise for prompt decision and vigorous action. The citizens should be able to look to City Hall for progressive measures and a sound administration of civic affairs. Hence the electors should on Monday exercise their right to choose, and choose the men they believe best qualified to render efficient service.

CAUSE AND EFFECT.

Extract from legislative report: "Quoting from the St. John Standard of Sept. 28 the honorable minister (Mr. Veniot) read an article which ascribed to four residents of Douglas Harbor a statement to the effect that the road around the head of Maguapit Lake was in a bad condition following work done upon it by the department of public works. He followed this with an affidavit by the four residents named in the article, the affidavit being to the effect that they had not made the statements credited to them by the Standard."

Extract from today's Standard: "Hon. P. J. Veniot spoke today in the budget debate. In fact he won and clinched beyond any possibility of dispute the wind-jamming championship. For more than four hours he rambled all over the administration of the past twenty years, raked the honored dead from their graves to use their names in support of some of his statements, showed himself a master of all the political tricks, bluffed, caajoled and stormed, distorted, bragged and insinuated."

THIS EXPLAINS IT.

St. John Railway Company.
Stock, 6 per cent. \$1,000,000
Bonds, 5 per cent. 1,087,600
\$2,087,600
New Brunswick Power Co.
1st pfd. cum. stock, 7 per cent. \$1,000,000
2nd pfd. non-cum. stock, 7 per cent. 850,000
Bonds, 5 per cent. 1,750,000
Stock, common 1,998,000
\$5,598,000
And the real value of the property was not increased one dollar.

The power company advocates have not yet told who got the money, but they demand more money.
The war outlook at the week-end is much brighter. It is held that every day which passes makes for greater strength of the Allies, and that while a third great German attempt to break through may be made it must lack the terrible force of the first, or even of the second. There is, moreover, a suggestion that Gen. Foch may soon deem the time opportune to launch a great counter-stroke.

Hon. Mr. Veniot is one of the ablest debaters in the legislature. He is also a very able administrator, whose record in the public works department has been very greatly to his credit and to the benefit of the province. When he rises to speak there is something to be said, and his intimate knowledge of the methods and acts of the former administration furnish him with ready weapons in controversy. His speech on the budget Thursday and yesterday was at once a grave arraignment of the old government and a striking exposition of the better methods of the present administration.

"Every time you people of St. John eat a piece of white bread, you deliberately stretch your hand across the sea and take it from the starving people over there. That is what you do, for there is great scarcity of wheat and if you eat it, someone else does without."—Senator Colby.

THE DEAD OF THE TUSCANIA.

Far on the wild Scotch coast our boys are sleeping
Between the solemn cliffs and chanting waters,
Our soldiers, side by side in peaceful trenches,
Clad in their khaki, confined in fresh timber,
Or shrouded, quiet score by score, in canvas;
Their brief, brave struggle over, there Where nevermore shall enemy molest them.

Their country blesses all who did them honor,
The fishermen who sought those broken bodies
Among the rocks, the grief-wise Scottish women
Who all night long before the burial labored
Stitching with mother-tears a Starry Banner,
That for their flag might wave above them, lying
At their supreme salute of loyal dying.
Far from their prairie farms and inland cities,
Their sleep is listening to a new, strange music,
Thunder of stormy tides and cry of seagulls,
A mightier organ, but the same proud anthem
That shaped the hero dreams of childhood,
Faith, Sacrifice; and they, beloved, lamented,
Slumber like tired boys at home, contented.
—Katharine Lee Bates, in The Bellman.

LIGHTER VEIN.

The Age of Reason.

Jimmy giggled when the teacher read the story of the Roman who swam across the Tiber three times before breakfast.
"You do not doubt that a trained swimmer could do that, do you, Jimmy?" the teacher demanded.
"No, ma'am," answered Jimmy. "But I wonder why he didn't make it four times and get back to the side his clothes were on."—Vancouver Province.

Implied Character.

A local draper tells a story of a young man from Lianpumpaint who went to London to obtain a berth.
"Ah!" said the prospective employer, "what is the meaning of Lianpumpaint?"
"The Land of Five Saints," was the reply.
"Are there five saints there now?"
"Not now, sir; only four."
The young man got the berth.—Reading (Eng.) Standard.

On Duty Elsewhere.

An Irish soldier had just lost an eye in battle, but was allowed to continue in the service on consenting to have a glass eye in its place, says an English paper. One day, however, he appeared on parade without his artificial eye.
"Nolan," said the officer, "you are not properly dressed. Why is your artificial eye not in its place?"
"Sure, sir," replied Nolan, "I left it in me box to keep an eye on me kit while I'm on parade."—Youth's Companion.

Not Commendable.

We have been informed there was a dance in town last week, the first for many years. This is not a very good recommendation for a small place like this. I also have been told some of our church people participated. This is not commendable, also these things should not occur. They cause people to make remarks.—Unionville (Mo.) Republican.

HIS THROAT CUT.

Rufin Despres, aged twenty-two, of Cacagne Bar, Kent county, was found dead in a pool of blood in his room at a boarding house in Moncton last evening and a razor lying by his side. There is a rumor that he had shown signs of worry over the likelihood of being called for military service.

ELECTION CARDS

Ladies and Gentlemen:
Having already announced my candidature for City Commissioner, it but remains to make this formal intimation.
May I be pardoned for suggesting that my years at the Council Board, preceded by a lifetime of business experiences, might reasonably be expected to provide a fairly reliable knowledge of Civic and Municipal matters.

During the critical period ahead for the Civic Government, when the war is creating new conditions and difficulties, I am desirous of bearing my burden of citizenship. I am grateful for the vote recorded and will appreciate your continued vote and an increased support at the elections on Monday, 22nd.

A plain ballot has been mailed to lady voters.

Yours respectfully,
THOS. H. BULLOCK.

4-22

To the Electors of the City of St. John:

Ladies and Gentlemen:
The final election for the office of commissioner, will be held on Monday next, the 22nd of April, and I sincerely trust that as electors that you will go to the polls and vote.

The act of voting counts. The intention to vote, without putting the intention in force, is of no value. You admit, and openly declare, that if there ever was a time in the history of the city that good, safe, sound government was demanded, it is now.

Exercise your best judgment in the selection of representatives, and if you do this, then you have done your part. If elected as a commissioner my undivided time will be given to the city business, and any knowledge or experience gained by my previous service, will be put to account.

Being in the contest, I sincerely trust that my friends and supporters will, as in the past, go to the polls and vote.

Yours respectfully,
JAMES H. FRINK.

(A plain ballot has been mailed to lady electors.) 4-22

Foley's Stove Linings
THAT LAST
TELEPHONE MAIN 1001
Don't Let The Fire Burn Thru To The Oven

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Felt That He Would Never Walk Again
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"The first box helped me, and I took the tablets regularly until every trace of the Rheumatism left me.
"I have every confidence in 'Fruit-a-tives' and strongly recommend them to every sufferer from Rheumatism."

LORENZO LEDUC.
50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c. At all dealers or sent postpaid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa, Ont.

NOW ON THE WATER WAGON

(Toronto Globe.)

Two Toronto neighbors were yesterday hoisted on the water wagon by grim fate. For some weeks prior to the advent of dominion "dryness," these ambitious young citizens had been seriously and systematically saving up. In the closing days of the month of March they invested their savings—a matter of \$125—in a barrel of brandy cocktails.

Shop At ARNOLD'S and Save Money

Wall Paper, 8c., 10c., 12c., 15c. to 20c. roll; Cut-out Borders to Match, 2c. 2 1/2c., 5c., 7c. to 14c. yard.
Lace Curtains, 75c., 85c., \$1.25, \$1.45 to \$2.75 pair.
Curtain Muslins and Lace, 12c., 14c., 18c., 22c. and 25c. yard.
Ladies' Waists—White and Colored—Vests and Bodices, 75c., 85c. and 95c. each.
Suits and Gowns—de Chine, \$1.20, \$1.95, \$2.25 and \$2.50 each (special value).
White Fabric Gloves, 25c., 35c., 45c. and 50c. pair.
Black Kid Gloves, Special, \$1.10 pair.
China Cups and Saucers, 17c., 20c., 22c. each.
Plates, 15c., 18c. each.
Large Cake Plates, 25c. each.
Berrie Bowls, 75c. each.
Porridge Dishes, 85c. each.
Enamel-ware, Window Blinds, Curtain Rods.
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4 1-2 oz. Tin 50c. 9 oz. Tin 75c.

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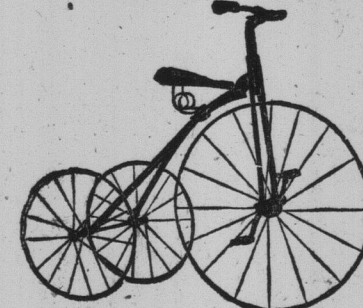
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Bicycles (Crescent and Ivanhoe) \$42.00 to \$50.00
Hummer (Boy's Bicycle) \$14.00
Velocipedes (Steel frame, steel and rubber tires) \$4.00 to \$8.50
Kiddy Kars \$2.00 to \$2.50
Carts and Express Wagons \$1.00 to \$10.00

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Best Manitoba Government Standard Spring Wheat

Is of uniform high-grade, and you can depend on it absolutely for every household purpose. It makes lovely creamy bread, delicious biscuits and pastry.
Direct From Mill to Home
Per Barrel, \$12.00; Per 1/2 Barrel Bag, \$5.90; Per 24 lb. Bag, \$1.55
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