

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1921.

A GOOD TIME COMING (?)

Now that the busy-busy in town the people have an opportunity to sit down quietly and look over the situation to see just where they are at. Apparently the so-called Liberal party will find itself with a majority over all other parties in the House combined. True this majority is not sufficient to make it independent, but it is no doubt satisfactory enough as far as it goes. A Government with the Hon. Mackenzie King as Prime Minister, is assured at any rate. It may therefore not be amiss to try and figure out what the country may expect in the way of legislation, according to the professions of the Leader and other prominent members of it.

In the first place, the Liberal spokesmen have had a good deal to say with regard to the backslaps caused the people by the high cost of the necessities of life and other essentials for which they have not failed to blame the Government. However, all trouble in this respect may, we presume, be now regarded as over, because the Liberal party has undertaken to deal with the matter. Here is their adopted programme about it:

"That the best interests of Canada demand that substantial reductions of the burden of customs taxation be made with a view to the accomplishing of two purposes of the highest importance:

(1) Diminishing the very high cost of living which presses so heavily on the masses of the people;

(2) Reducing the cost of the instruments of production in the industries based on the natural resources of the Dominion, the vigorous development of which is essential to the progress and prosperity of our country.

"That to these ends, wheat, wheat flour and all products of wheat, the principal articles of food, farm implements and machinery, farm tractors, mining, flour and saw mill machinery and repair parts thereof, rough and dressed lumber, gasoline, illuminating, lubricating and fuel oils, etc., not now taxed and fishermen's equipment, and fertilizers should be free from customs duties as well as the raw materials entering into the same; that a revision downward should be made and substantial reductions should be effected in the duties on wearing apparel and footwear, and on other articles of general consumption (other than luxuries) as well as on the raw materials entering into the manufacture of the same; that the British preference should be increased 50 per cent. of the general tariff."

"The Liberal party hereby pledges itself to implement by legislation the provisions of this Resolution when returned to power."

As the Liberal party will be in power at the next session of Parliament, the members of it may naturally be expected to implement their pledged word according to their pledge. So that the people may or might to very speedily have some relief from the high cost of living, that is, of course a thing that the policy that the Liberal party proposes is of very value in that respect.

The trouble regarding unemployment will now we presume come to an end. The Liberal orators have blamed the Government for its alleged apathy in respect to this matter, and have declared that if the Government had taken steps to alleviate conditions, all the trouble might have been avoided. Naturally the administration will be prepared with a remedy for the existing state of affairs, and the country will eagerly await particulars of it.

Another change which the Liberal leaders have promised the country is a cessation of what they have called extravagance. An era of the strictest economy may be expected, if they keep their promises which of course as gentlemen they naturally will. The first reduction they propose to make—so they say—is in the customs duties, which are really terribly high. With less money in the national exchequer, there will not be the temptation to spend beyond their means. With five years of such benevolent Liberal rule, the greater part of the national debt should be wiped out!

Oh there's a good time coming for Canada—perhaps.

The Globe says that North York gave its assent to the suggestion of the Hon. Mackenzie King, so did Royal in Mr. Jones' case but we notice that The Globe repeats them again yesterday.

THE OUTLOOK FOR ST. JOHN.

We rather gather from what The Times says that in view of the fact that St. John rejected the Liberal nomination it will be idle for this city and port to expect very much from the new Government. "It is idle to assume that Dr. Baxter and Dr. MacLellan will be heard with any degree of sympathy in the new House of Commons." We are exceedingly sorry to think that the Liberal party and its leaders should be so small and narrow-minded in regard to such a big national question. For weeks past the Liberal candidates and their press organs have been damning the Government in all the moods and tenors for its alleged neglect of this port. Readers of the Liberal newspapers have been inundated with the continued reiteration of the Government's neglect of St. John. And now we are told by a newspaper organ of the Government that is to be, that St. John need not look for anything under existing conditions. In other words, after Messrs. MacLellan and Broderick put up the fight they did, their efforts on St. John's behalf are to go absolutely unrecognized and they will have no weight whatever with their friends at Ottawa!

And yet of course The Times is not without authority for the enunciation of such a principle as that referred to. In 1909 Dr. Pugsley was member for St. John, and Mr. O. S. Crockett for York. In that year it was New Brunswick's turn to get the Dominion Grant of \$50,000 in aid of an Agricultural Exhibition, and Frederick York had sent Mr. Crockett to Ottawa as its representative instead of the Liberal candidate, the grant was withheld for that year, and awarded to St. John the next year, 1910. So apparently this form of "letting blizzards" is not unknown in the Liberal party.

The Times apparently has very little opinion of the degree of influence Messrs. MacLellan and Broderick will have with the new Government. What we have seen of Mr. MacLellan however, leads us to the conclusion that a Government that does not pay some attention at least to him, is likely to have a very disturbed time.

The esteemed Telegraph expressed the view that the defeat of the Liberal candidates in St. John-Albert was due to lack of unity in the party. Yet Mr. MacLellan told one of the first audiences he addressed at the opening of the campaign that all differences in the party had been satisfactorily smoothed over, and that everything was now lovely once again! Under some conditions a poor excuse is better than none at all. Does The Telegraph honestly think that if he had felt that success of the Liberal cause was so sure as that journal now professes to believe, Dr. Pugsley would not have accepted the nomination when it was offered him?

This afternoon the last tributes of respect will be paid to the late Percy M. Rising, whose death has caused so much regret among all classes of his fellow citizens. With every prospect of a long and useful career ahead of him, to be cut off just as he was entering the prime of life, without any notice, is more than usually sad, and his passing under such circumstances comes with a much greater shock than ordinarily is the case. The sympathy of the entire community goes out to his bereaved relatives.

The rumor is probably premature that Mr. H. R. MacLellan is planning an extensive personal survey of the harbor as a preparation for the position of Chairman of the Harbor Board that it is expected will be created at the next session of Parliament. Still, of course, any man who voluntarily steps down and out of a \$7000 a year job from a sense of public duty, is surely entitled to some recognition.

The Globe says that "Tuesday's election makes Hon. Mr. Baxter a Conservative Leader possibility." We thought the same way ourselves, but preferred that come one else should say so first. At the same time we might point out that Mr. Melgren is the party leader and will remain so, even though some other member of it may have to take the acting leadership pro tem.

Conditions in Canada as a result of the war have been rather bad for the last couple of years, but the worst is now over, and from this on, things will improve considerably. In the ordinary process of evolution, but watch the Liberal party take all the credit for their air ship for the better.

The Times says it is to be regretted that New Brunswick did not join with Nova Scotia and P. E. I. and send a complete Liberal delegation to Ottawa. We should have thought that our contemporary instead of regretting, would have been pleased to find that one Maritime Province at any rate showed some little sense.

The Standard is authorized to say that there is not a word of truth in the report that Mr. H. R. MacLellan was looking all over the city yesterday in an effort to buy a sponge big enough to wipe Portland off the map.

According to a dispatch appearing in yesterday's Globe, C. P. R. stock has risen. Is this in anticipation of the carrying out by the new Government of the Gould policy of turning over the C. N. R. to it?

Who is going to stand down for Hon. William Pugsley? The Globe says New Brunswick needs him. Don't all speak at once please.

Does any one happen to know how much Mr. King pays for his neckties? The information may be of interest to Mr. MacLellan.

Mr. Roscoe Arbuckle says that his near acquittal was a moral victory. If so, it was about the only moral element of the affair, as we see it.

It is said that Mr. A. B. Copp has aspirations with regard to the portfolio of Railways, War, Arthur, here, hoping.

I've been so damned busy the last few days with political matters that I haven't got a vote yet, but I want to be excused to exercise the better judgment possible when I do have one, and the only way to do this is to get acquainted with political questions.

I noticed in Saturday's Times that Attorney General Byrne and Police Magistrate Ritchie had been throwing some bouquets to the detectives. Some of Judge Ritchie's remarks, however, seemed to me to be a trifle equivocal. If The Times correctly reported him, it said "Many times, he said, he had tried to get them late at night, and had been badly beaten. Quite likely, a single bottle doesn't go far."

The "make-up" man on the Iowa Citizen must have got rather badly mixed, when he coupled these two items: At Trinity church, Wednesday morning (St. Andrew's day), at 7, Holy Communion will be administered.

No trace of the missing bootleggers was discovered up to midnight, today.

Seems to me that the chaps who are supposed to be putting in the new sewers in Prince William street are making a long job of it. And that soap of soil and rocks on the sidewalk has been worse than a perfect nuisance when it was wet.

I notice in one of the papers an advert. "Wanted—A young girl for cooking." I don't know just what a cook-girl would be but personally I'm quite satisfied with a girl in the ordinary condition. Some of them look good enough to eat just as they are.

A chap I know attended a wedding on Saturday and he told me later that he had come to the conclusion that while it may not be good for a man to be alone, it's a lot less expensive.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Overzealous Red Tape. (Philadelphia Bulletin.)

Red tape has been a characteristic of the proceedings of the immigration authorities at Ellis Island. But never has it been more open to criticism than in the detention, even for one day, on technical grounds, of the boy from the Canal Zone who was brought to this city to undergo a difficult surgical operation in an attempt to save his life. A Government steamer was held for twelve hours at Colon in order that the dying youth might be taken aboard, in view of the urgency of the case and the fact that the next boat would not sail for several days. But the advantage which was thus gained in a race against death has been almost wholly dissipated by official insistence upon rigid formulas. Some of the "humanizing" influence which Postmaster-General Hays is endeavoring to infuse into his department is badly needed in this branch of the Government service.

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 has lightly remarked, "a change of trousers is in the nature of a rest." Emerging from the British people to win the war, opposing an entrenched machine that resisted unity of command, fired at by the Aquilans from the front and by the Northfolks from the rear; at one hour fighting the great British labor host and the next clubbing its opponents into accepting settlements; wrangling with Wilson and then with Brand; distrustful by the dominant social elements of Great Britain, and all the while compelled, on a last night's ride, to repeat an onslaught in the House of Commons—here is, indeed, an exemplification of the strenuous life. To come through all this, even though handicapped, is amazing.

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

THIS PARK AVE. NEWS.

Weather. Great. Society and Sports. A sudden stag party took place last Saturday afternoon in Mr. Charles (Pops) Sinkins' house on account of it starting to rain while the fellows were all sitting on the front steps but it broke up almost immediately and everybody had to go home while it was still raining on account of the thing that broke back the parter curtains breaking in half while they were playing tug of war with it. Among the guests was Mr. Benny Pops, Mr. Artie Alexander, Mr. Reddy Merty, Mr. Leroy Shooter and Mr. Sid Hunt.

Raffles and Financial. Sam Cross wants to sell his old roller skates for 35 cents but will sell them for less if necessary. POME BY BENNY MARTIN.

Wats the Use? I saw a 200 year old mummy. When I went to the museum one day. But I rather be a baby in a baby catch. Than 200 and looking that way.

Interesting Facts About Interesting People. Ed Wernick is only 10 years old altogether but he has broken his arm twice, his leg once, his nose once and 3 ribs once apiece. Slatisty. Miss Maud Jonson says that Miss Lorester Minor is libel to get sued for libel if she keeps on spreading false reports about her.

Learning English.

(London Daily Telegraph.)

We are familiar with the charge from those whose view of education is merely utilitarian, who continually complain that the schools do not produce competent workers. These charges are almost always regarded with suspicion. It is not the whole duty of the teacher to turn out accurate clerks or careful cooks. But the utilitarian efficiency of a boy or girl is not incompatible with efficiency as a human being, a creature with an understanding of life. And in this matter of the teaching of English the utilitarian and the humanist may well join hands. The children who are taught to understand the meaning of words will be the better qualified for whatever tasks come their way. The children who know something of the thought and imagination of which English literature is a treasury will be better citizens and better men and women.

A BIT OF VERSE

AN OLD WOMAN OF THE ROADS.

(Padraic Colum.)

O, to have a little house,
To own the hearth and stool and all;
The hearth-stove and the stool upon the fire,
The pile of turf against the wall!

To have a clock with weights and chains,
And pendulum swinging up and down;
A dresser filled with shining delf,
Speckled and white and blue and brown.

I could be busy all the day
Clearing and sweeping hearth and floor,
And firing on their shelf again
My white and blue and speckled store!

I could be quiet there at night,
Beside the fire and by myself,Stare of a bed and death to leave
The ticking clock and the shining delf!

Och! but I'm weary of mist and dark,
And roads where there's never a house nor bush,
And tired I am of bog and road,
And the crying wind and the lone some bush!

And I am praying to God on high,
And I am praying Him night and day,
For a little house—a house of my own—
Out of the wind's and the rain's way.

THE LAUGH LINE

Love: The quality that makes man think his wife is getting plump when she is getting fat.

Too True. "You can always depend on the enemy of your enemies," notes a cynical contemporary, "but there are times when you can't count on the friendship of your friends."

Passing On Privilege. She—"Who rocks the cradle rules the world. Remember that."

He—"Then you come in and rule the world. I'm tired."—Pearson's Week.

Knew Her Ways. Wife (enthusiastically)—I saw the most gorgeous chifferlaw today, dear. But, of course, I know we cannot afford—

Hubby (resignedly)—"When have they promised to deliver it?"—New York Sun.

A Sharp Reply. Tourist—"What's that beastly Native—that a razz-dack hawk, with."

Tourist—"Why is he rubbing himself on the tree?" Native—"Just stropping himself, sah, just stropping himself."—Cornell Widow.

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will help to stop the cough, soothe the throat, and if the cough or cold has become settled on the lungs the healing virtues of the Norway pine syrup, along with the soothing and expectorant properties of other excellent herbs, roots and barks promptly eradicate the bad effects, and the persistent cough cannot but help to bring about relief.

Mr. Albert Marsh, Lower L'Anse-au-Loup, N. B., writes:—"About a year ago I contracted a cold accompanied by a very bad cough and sore throat. I sent for the doctor, but what he prescribed did me no little good. I began to get discouraged. A friend came to see me and asked me if I had ever used Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup. I told him I had not and sent him right away to get me a bottle. I started using it, and after a couple of days I found I was getting relief, and after taking two bottles the soreness in my throat seemed to be leaving me, so I resolved to continue its use, and after I had used five bottles both my sore throat and cough were gone. I would not be without 'Dr. Wood's' for any money." Price, 35c. and 60c. a bottle; put up only by The T. Millburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.



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