

The Standard



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SAINT JOHN, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 29, 1910

A SIGN OF THE TIMES.

The Times must be hard put to it for political material when a typographical error in the date of the announcement of the Borden Club's moonlight excursion is made a basis for editorial comment.

Can the Times, for instance, supply some much sought for information as to the whereabouts of the Young Liberals' Club, which within recent memory was started with a great flourish of trumpets, with the primary object of supplying a band of torch bearers and boosters to the Minister of Public Works?

Have they disbanded, or have the funds run out? In the latter event perhaps one of the club's erstwhile members, who was recently engaged in the now popular and lucrative business of hiring motor boats to the government at \$10 a day, might be induced to come to the rescue.

Then there is another young Liberal, quite a prominent member of the club, who could tell the Times some home truths of the way the patronage is handed out, and how his own friends have been neglected.

The moonlight excursion which has been arranged by the Borden Club for July 29, is only one of a series of popular gatherings which have marked the progress of the club since its inception. Its members are loyal adherents of the Liberal-Conservative party and what that party stands for.

THE MEXICAN ELECTIONS.

No doubt the result of the elections in Mexico was a foregone conclusion. President Diaz, whose career as a soldier, a public administrator, and a politician, makes the adventures of the strenuous Roosevelt seem by comparison tame and insipid, as the life of a lion of the Pansy books, is nothing if not efficient.

An American writer, Turner, inspired by the revolutionary junta which seeks to rule Mexico, from New York, has assiduously tried to disseminate the idea that Diaz is a cold-blooded and brutal despot, ferociously intent on suppressing every aspiration towards political liberty on the part of the people, and that Mexico is still the home of barbarism and slavery.

Time after time President Diaz has called the chief men of the Republic together and asked them to relieve him of his responsibilities. But every time he has closed his hand, the country has swung swiftly to the verge of civil war.

Two candidates entered the field for the vice-presidency, Ramones Corral, the sitting vice-president, and General Reyes, a popular soldier and state governor. Both able public-spirited men, they sought to restrain the enthusiasm of their followers, but without avail.

So at last President Diaz, who knows the horrors of civil war, put his foot down, though probably more in sorrow than in anger, at the folly of his people. Sending for General Reyes, he gave him a commission to report on European armaments that would keep him out of the country for two years, and Reyes departed for Europe.

Diaz, the hero of fifty battles, who delivered his country from the French, lifted it from chaos and poverty into the respect of the world, and who, on his 79th birthday, went into the military gymnasium at Mexico City, and put to shame the best athletes in the army, bulks on the imagination of his people as a sort of demi-god.

THE PEOPLE'S VOTE.

Some people, looking to the government's large majority of about 50 in parliament, seem to think that the people have a practically impossible task to rid the country of Laurier rule and get a new clean government in its place.

But as a matter of fact very little change in the popular vote is required to sweep the Laurier ministers, their parliamentary majority, and their attendant grafters out of power, and give this country the new and honest government of which for many years past it has stood in sore need.

The vote at the last general election shows the political parties to be almost evenly balanced. The Laurier government had practically no majority at all in the people's vote.

The parliament, from a party standpoint, did and does not represent the people at all. The people's vote in the Dominion General Election of 1908, was as follows:—

Opposition—Conservatives563,547 Independents 24,893

Total Opposition vote588,440 Government vote587,664

Popular Opposition majority 776

From which it will be seen that the Laurierites had no majority in the people's vote at all, but were in fact in a minority in the total popular vote.

But if we leave the Independents altogether out of the count, and contrast the Laurierites and the Conservatives alone, the case stood thus:—

Laurierites587,664 Conservatives563,547

Laurierite majority only24,117

Thus the Laurierite majority over the Liberal-Conservatives alone, was but a trifle over two per cent. of the total vote.

Think of that: only two per cent. in the people's vote; but the Laurier majority is over twenty-two per cent. in the parliamentary vote.

Thus it is clear the present parliament does not represent the people, and what the Liberal-Conservatives have to fight against at the coming general election is not the twenty-two per cent. in parliament, but merely the two per cent. in the people's vote.

That should not be much of a task, in view of the government's most discreditable record. The average change over to the Liberal-Conservative side of only 55 electors in each constituency, or of only two or three men in each polling division, would defeat the Laurierites from ocean to ocean.

That should be no very hard or impossible task. Even in Quebec, which some people in this province perhaps look upon as hopelessly Laurierite, the people's majority for the government was quite small; the vote stood thus: Laurierites, 158,000; Conservatives, 129,000.

There is, therefore, no "solid Quebec" for Laurier; nothing very revolutionary is needed, even in Quebec, to reverse the situation and leave Laurier out of office.

The Liberal-Conservatives have certainly no impossible task before them, if they but take a proper view of the situation, be convinced that they can win, be determined that they will win, and get to work early, intelligently and persistently to that great end of rescuing the country from the vulture grasp of Laurierism and graft.—Halifax Herald.

PEACE COMMISSION.

A joint resolution for the appointment of "a commission in relation to universal peace," has passed the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, and now goes to President Taft for his action. It is understood that he will sign it. The object of the commission is to propose to the nations joint action looking towards the maintenance of the world's peace by the creation of an international police or by other feasible methods.

The resolution is not binding but authorizes the President of the United States to appoint five men who shall consider the expediency of utilizing existing international agencies for securing limitation of armaments by international agreement and of using the navies of the world as a peace keeping police, and who shall also consider any other ways and means of diminishing military expenditures and of lessening the danger of war.

The commission may or may not produce tangible results, but all such endeavors to secure a world's peace will be regarded by right minded persons with sympathetic approval.

CURRENT COMMENT

(Edmonton Journal.)

Henri Bourassa is reported to be returning to Dominion politics. Bourassa is the man who contends that Laurier is all right, but that he is hypnotized by the grafters. A man so charitable as Bourassa stands not much chance in Dominion politics as they are run today.

(Vancouver World.)

We are bound to admit the truth of a cynical remark made by a correspondent that "a reporter acquires a lot of information that isn't so." It is equally true that he does not publish it all, and furthermore, the cynical writer may be among those who should be thankful that the city editor does not allow the reporter to publish all that is very true.

(Edmonton Journal.)

The spectacle in the province of Ontario of thousands upon thousands of people of all shades of politics travelling miles to hear R. L. Borden tell of the scheming and chicanery which has been used to divorce the Dominion from its wealth and resources indicates a new awakening in the public conscience of the people of Canada, giving reason for the belief that henceforth the grafter will answer with his political life for any traitorous action toward his public trust.

(Vernon News.)

Mr. Pugsley while he was in power paid his own private telegraph bills out of the public purse and kept the fact quiet. When there was a change of government and the legislature investigated matters, then—and not till then—did Mr. Pugsley refund. He admitted that the account was improper. He knew that he was milking the treasury to his own advantage. He kept on doing so as long as he was shielded and made restoration only under the spur. Yet Sir Wilfrid Laurier permits a man of such loose ideas respecting trust funds to preside over one of the greatest spending departments of the federal government.

(Toronto News.)

Mr. Borden's severe arraignment of an enfeebled government has awakened marked interest in all parts of the country, and he has developed a penchant for effective phrases which remain in men's minds. His characterization of the projected Laurier fleet as "an Order-in-Council navy" will live, and the electors heartily approve his sentiment, that, "if we are in the Empire in time of peace, we must be in the Empire and for the Empire in time of war." His insistence that Canada should do its duty by Great Britain in the naval arena is highly approved in every constituency.

THAT NIGHT

That night the world seemed full of song. Each star a twinkling word, And every frog was musical Before his ready door.

The roses leaned across his path. Their fragrance never so sweet; That wood and meadow all should sing On such a night seemed meet.

The brook that laughed beneath the bridge Burst into sudden song, And lurking echoes all the way Their chime bells rang along.

A thousand things seemed bent to cheer His happy homeward way, As if they knew his inner joy And tried their joy to say.

And all of this because a maid Within a bower dim Where roses only heard the words Had said that she loved him.

PLEASURE AND WISDOM

Here are two fountains that are flowing at our side; one, which is pleasurable, may be likened to a fountain of honey; the other, which is a sober draught in which no wine mingles, is of water pure and healthful. Out of these we may seek to make the fairest of all possible mixtures. But how is the mixture to be made? Do we not say that the intemperate has pleasure, and that the temperate has pleasure in his very temperance? that the fool is pleased when he is filled with foolish fancies and hopes, and that the wise man has pleasure in his wisdom? and may not he be justly deemed a fool who says that these pairs of pleasures are respectively alike? —Plato.

GOOD STORIES

A little comedy between acts enlivened things at a moving picture theatre one night last week. A middle-aged man accompanied by his wife sat directly behind a pretty young girl and her escort. At the end of the first act the middle-aged man went out for "fresh air." He came back bringing the smell of the fresh air and gayer spirits with him. His wife gave him a startled glance and like a flash her hand went up to his vest. There, dangling from the top button was a bunch of brown, curly puffs. There was a dynamical second as the wife held the puffs in her white gloved hand and looked at them. Now, she was not a jealous wife, just a common-sense little woman ready to meet an emergency. She looked at the heads about her. The pretty girl's back hair looked as if a piece had fallen out. The wife leaned over to the side away from the girl's escort and whispered. The girl slipped a hand down and back, and the wife stealthily laid the bunch of puffs which husband had carried away on his vest button in the owner's hand. The latter kept them concealed, gently and artfully reached up, pinned them, and sat, and escort, watching the rising curtain, was none the wiser.

THE BEAUTIFUL RAIN



Tourist: This country needs rain doesn't it? Tired Native: You bet it does; ain't had an excuse to lay off from work for some weeks.

JOSH WISE SAYS: "There's no fool like the peace-maker who interferes between husband and wife."

"Wouldst thou aviate with me, fair maiden?" "Show forth the atirship, proud sir," she said.

"You thought the comet would collide with the earth?" "Yes," replied the nervous man. "What do you think of it now?" "I think the comet has been mighty lucky."

Mr. Jones:—"Heavens! My whiskers are turning yellow." Mrs. Jones:—"Mercy, George; you mistook my hair bleach for toilet water."

"Yo' isn't never stopped at de Palace Hotel befo', is yo', Boss?" inquired the colored man who was piloting a just-arrived traveller from the railway station to the hostelry. "No, but what makes you so sure of it?" "Uh-kase yo' gwine dar now, sah." —Fack.

Doctor (just arrived):—"What is the trouble?" "Officious Person:—"A woman has swooned." Doctor:—"Has anything been done?" "Officious Person:—"Yes, sir; we've tried our best to unswoon her, but without success."

Headgear They Ought To Wear. Jim Jeffries:—Poke bonnet. Soda Clerk:—A straw. The Toper:—Nightcap. A Lender:—Felt (been touched). Jockey:—A derby. Aeronaut:—A sail o'er. The Jilt:—A crush hat. The Digger Indian:—A panama. The Comedian:—A knockabout. Aztec Victim:—A shako. Mountain Climber:—Peak cap. Pessimist:—Sombro-ro. Texan:—A sou-wester. A Woman Lawyer:—Feedora. Gun Fighter:—A cocked hat. Oarsman:—Scull cap. Auto Builder:—A hood, or bonnet. Laborer:—A shovel hat. Brewer:—A casque. Bricklayer:—Mortarboard cap.

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A WEST END MAN FOUND DROWNED. Body of William Joyce Discovered in Dunn's Slip Yesterday—He Fell from Rodney Wharf. The body of William Joyce of the West End was found in Dunn's slip this morning about eight o'clock. Joyce with the two Dowd brothers and his son Richard have for some time been living on board the old schooner Reporter, which is laid up in the slip, where they sleep at night and cook their meals. They were harmless men and the police did not bother them in their place of abode. The last that was seen of Joyce was yesterday afternoon, when he was seen walking up Rodney wharf, and at that time he appeared to be pretty well intoxicated. It is thought that the man, while attempting to get on board the old vessel, fell off the wharf into the water, as his body this morning was found between the wharf and the vessel. The deceased was a man of about sixty years of age and was well known in the West End. A sad feature of the case happened this morning when the word was telephoned to the central police station, asking that the deceased's son be notified of his father's death. The son is Richard Joyce, who was arrested on Friday last for being drunk and was sentenced to jail. This morning he was sent out with the chain gang to work with the other prisoners before the word reached the jail of the death. The magistrate will be asked to liberate the prisoner.

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