

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1922

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THE VERDICT.

The city has returned to sanity and the open road to progress. Perhaps it would be more true to say that it has removed an obstruction and continued on the march begun last April. The enthusiasm with which the victory of Mr. G. Fred Fisher was received in the city last night left no doubt as to popular sentiment. The people have not changed. They want power at cost, and an end of the monopoly that has prevented industrial expansion. It should not have been necessary to hold a second election, and this one should suffice. The City Council knows what the people want. It is set forth in Mr. Fisher's platform, which the people have endorsed.

It must be a great source of satisfaction to the United Organizations that their efforts to get cheap light and power have not been blocked by the New Brunswick Power Company. The company, with its watered stock, had so much at stake that it could afford to give most liberal support to the candidate whom it favored, and that it did so has been abundantly clear in the last two weeks; but the people could safely be trusted to interpret the meaning of such activity and to realize what would happen if the owners of the watered stock became all-powerful at City Hall.

There is a general feeling of relief that we have come to the end of a campaign which was marked on the side of power company advocates by gross personalities and baseless insinuations. The atmosphere is the clearer for the defeat of those who would resort to tactics of that nature.

The friends of public ownership of hydro everywhere will be glad to hear of St. John's decision yesterday, but none have such reason for rejoicing as those who can look forward to a new era of progress and prosperity. There is much to do, but now that two campaigns have declared the popular will it should not be difficult to overcome every obstacle and go forward as a united people to the accomplishment of that which cheap light and power make possible wherever they are brought within reach of an enterprising community.

Mr. Fisher will now find himself an object of great interest in certain quarters where he was despised yesterday. Sundry doctors will come to him with medicine which they will assure him is much more effective than he is pledged to administer. They will see danger in civic ownership, danger in competition, danger in what some specialists have described as contagion, danger in trying to get along without a steam train. They will entangle upon the necessity of keeping the patient calm, and not setting up any cause of irritation which might have deadly results. Mr. Fisher will know exactly what to say to these people, and he will say it. His prescription stands. Here it is:

- No. 1—(a) The completion and signing of the contract with the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission for Musquash Power.
- (b) The appointment of an independent Civic Hydro Electric Commission to construct a Civic Distribution System and operate same.
- No. 2—Completion of Plans and Specifications for a Civic Distribution System.
- No. 3—That an offer be made by the city to purchase the entire property of The New Brunswick Power Company, at the sum named by the Supreme Court of New Brunswick, March 2, 1920, \$2,577,655.56. This sum to be the maximum, and the offer to remain open for ten days only.
- No. 4—In the event of the offer not being accepted by the Power Company, in the time specified, the city to proceed immediately with the construction of its own distribution system.

At last we have a man who will do what he is pledged to do. These things first. Other things will adjust themselves or be adjusted as they come up. And Mr. Fisher will have the people at his back.

No mayor of St. John ever had such an opportunity as Mr. McEllan was given last April. Hard things had been

said about him. Business men distrusted him. But there he was, elected mayor by a huge majority. He had only to carry out the policy on which he was elected to gain universal favor. It is entirely his own fault that within so short a time he has been retired to private life. Any thoughtful citizen who reads in today's Times the speech he made last night, following a campaign in which he stooped to gross personalities, cannot but applaud the popular verdict of yesterday. The whole campaign in his behalf and that of the New Brunswick Power Company was based on misrepresentation and personal abuse of private citizens, whose only crime was their consistent advocacy of power at cost and freedom from a monopoly that has been a yoke upon the neck of St. John. Had the Telegraph and Times cared to go into personalities in reply, there was no lack of material in several directions; but personalities were not the issue in the campaign.

There is nevertheless, something instructive in the course of events. It sometimes happens that when a gentleman from rural parts hearkens to the call of the city and journeys thither he finds his great brain cramped by the mere routine of the work of one corporation. He may even want to run the city itself, or at least to pluck it. He may mingle with promoters and be one of them; develop an interest in water-power operations; gather information, even at the cost of a violation of the rules of hospitality, and distort and use it to serve his own ends; join existing organizations and promote others that might serve his turn; try adventures in journalism, because those engaged are in his opinion totally unfitted for the task. He may do all this and in the end be compelled to endure the sad reflection that he is something of a Rube himself.

It is an interesting fact in connection with the campaign that the Board of Trade learned last evening that something was going on in St. John. While the members were gravely considering matters of somewhat remote interest an enthusiastic delegation poured in and overflowed the rooms, took charge of the meeting, and cheered for hydro at cost, the greatest boon ever offered to the city as a means of the industrial expansion the Board of Trade desires. Many members of the Board supported Mr. Fisher, but as an organization where was it? The people who have twice voted for power at cost and an end of monopoly will naturally be confident that Mr. Fisher will have no more effective backer than the Board of Trade.

The decks are cleared. Let us get on with the business.

Premier Foster has every reason to be satisfied with yesterday's verdict. It is a vindication of the hydro policy of his government, and an emphatic answer to his detractors. He staid out of the fight until the policy was challenged, and then he spoke in its defense with convincing force.

In no civic election in St. John for very many years has such popular enthusiasm been manifested as that of last night. The people welcomed freedom from a bondage they had good reason to fear.

Mr. McEllan asserted at one of his meetings that if certain things did come to pass he would eat large dishes of crow. The feast is served. "May good digestion wait on appetite."

Do the people of St. John need to be saved from themselves? The defeated candidate says so, and graciously offers to be their savior. Such generosity will doubtless be appreciated.

Now that the campaign is over the surplus water will continue to flow over the dam at Musquash. It is the watered stock that will experience a dry spell.

The gentlemen who set out to swing the longshoremen's vote to Mr. McEllan succeeded only in spots and to no appreciable extent.

The portion of the press supporting Mr. Fisher and power cost was, after all, the best interpreter of public feeling.

The "idiot" which defeated Mr. McEllan yesterday was the same that he acclaimed in April.

Mr. Fisher cannot get busy with his platform a day too soon to suit the citizens.

Engineer Schieddenhelm will now have leisure to exploit those hunting tugs.

It must have cost a lot of money. Whose money? And it was wasted.

The bands made an engagement, but there was music in the air.

THE OLD HOMESTEAD.

(By Bliss Carman)

Here we came when love was young;
Now that love is old
Shall we leave this floor unswept
And the hearth a-cold?

Here from every doorway looks
A remembered face;
Every sill and panel wears
A familiar grace.

Let the windows smile again
In the morning light,
And the door stand open wide
When the moon is bright.

Let the breeze of twilight blow
Through the silent hall,
And the dreaming rafters hear
How the thrushes call.

Oh! be merciful and fond
To the house that gave
All its best to shelter love,
Built when love was brave!

Here we came when love was young;
Now that love is old
Never let its day be done
Nor its heart cold!

—From "Later Poems"—McClelland & Stewart, Publishers.

THE INDIAN NURSE.

She moves from bed to bed with down-dropped eyes,
Eyes dark and soft as though her father's hand
Had pruned the vine upon Italian hills,
But in this lurks no laughter; even when
Her red lips part and in her dusky cheeks
A dimple comes and goes, they do not smile.
Beneath the mask of her young, rounded cheek
There gleams a coppery hue.
Her father's fire
Burned not the vine upon Italian hills,
But in our northern forests hunted game,
Or fished in deep-wooded, sun-flecked mountain streams.
She smooths the sheet beneath an anguished form
Or seizes a pillow for an aching head,
And as she moves I hear the sough of winds,
Of low winds in a moonlit wooded space.
(A hunter's moon that rises from a lake),
And I can smell the smoke of burning boughs
Mixed with the cool scent of the leafy earth.

She pines by my bed to proffer aid,
And the harsh noises of the city streets
Change to the rhythmic heart-beat of the surf
At half-tide on a wind and sandy shore.
I thank her, but she does not know for what.
—Elisa Van Wyck in New York Sun.

SCORE AGAIN AT THE OPERA HOUSE

Emmett and McAuliffe and Their Snappy Entertaining Company Please Large Audiences.

The Emmett-McAuliffe Company added another success to their already lengthy string in their presentation of an attractive bill at the Opera House last evening. The company's splendid show of the bill in comedy and specialty, and replete with delightful musical numbers.

The comedy skit is "My Uncle From Japan." There are complications and situations which arise through mistakes in relationship which result in a laugh a minute, and Jerry McAuliffe is right in his element. Eugene Emmett has two feature numbers, "Wonderful Girl" and "Ireland." In the former he is assisted by four young ladies and his little daughter, Jean. Both won an ovation. The specialties are excellent. Hazel Macfarlane does some fancy stepping and sings "Poor Little Me" with good effect. Sadie Campbell does a Scotch act and sings "I'm Going to Marry a Rascal." Helen Gray sings "Here's a Rose for You" and contributes a dainty dance number. "I'm Wild About Harry" is Buddy Emmett's selection, and his sister, Frances Emmett, scores in "George." A vaudeville team, Kenner and Brock made their appearance in a snappy act including comedy, patter and popular songs. An announcement was made to the effect that on Wednesday night at the Country Store real worth-while articles would be given away free. A complete new change for Thursday and the end of the week, the regular singing class and dolls at the matinee Saturday, and the Benny Leonard-Lew Tandler light pictures after the regular show on Friday and Saturday nights, starting at 10.30 o'clock.

BURNED OUT WITH \$100,000 LOSS

Toronto, Nov. 14.—Fire which started about half past ten o'clock last night and could not be effectively checked completely destroyed the building and plant of the Electroplax Co., manufacturers of electrical insulation equipment, at Mount Dennis, entailing a loss estimated at about \$100,000. The industry is said to have been the only one of its kind in Canada. It was established only last March as successor to the Nitro Products Co., an undertaking launched by the company and which suffered fires in three successive years, the last being in December of last year when a \$75,000 loss was sustained.

RESOURCEFUL AND PLUCKY BOY SAVES THREE COMPANIONS

Banff, Alta., Nov. 14.—Thirteen-year-old Willie Jackson saved three young companions from drowning on Sunday afternoon by crawling to the place where they had fallen through the ice and were hanging on to the edge. He drew them out with a hockey stick, one by one, to safety. None was the worse for his adventure.

MARIE PROVOST AT THE UNIQUE

From the quietude of the fireside to the roaring, oil-smelling speedway, is the course travelled by "The Married Flapper," starring Marie Provost, at the Unique Theatre.

The story is an analysis of the ways of the modern flapper, though this one is married, and proves that even a "female hopper" can be possessed of noble stuff. There are love, social standing, jealousy, financial reverses, conspiracy and reconciliation in Miss Provost's latest stirring vehicle, topped off with an automobile race that would thrill a hardened speedway veteran.

The star in the role of a flapper wife of a racing car driver, takes his place when he is injured and brings her car in first under the wire in spite of plotting for her failure.

"The Married Flapper" was written especially for Marie Provost and the Unique Universal star fits the role of the flippant flapper wife well.

AN HONORED NAME.

Robert A. Johnston brought to the Unique Theatre, following from the British Temple of Nov. 11, 1872, or fifty years ago, relating to the late Sir Leonard Tilley. The British Templar was published in Woodstock. The article will be read with deep interest and is as follows:

It is gratifying to learn that the Hon. S. L. Tilley, C. B., and the career and high position, does not only not forget those principles of total abstinence which he espoused so earnestly years ago, and in connection with which he bestowed and won honors, but that he is still disposed when opportunity calls for it to speak in public upon the subject and enforce it by his ability and the lessons of his experience. We frequently note Mr. Tilley's name mentioned in connection with temperance gatherings in Ontario and Quebec and mentioned as a power. And recently we learn this gentleman delivered a lecture in St. Andrews, N. B., in which his figures, his logic, and his eloquence proved very effective. We are proud to be able to mention Mr. Tilley's case as proving that amid the temptations and conventionalities of public life such as his, surrounded as he is by the force of associations where it is polite and polished to imbibe, and sometimes thrown into association with royalty, itself, a man does not lose sight of a strict observance of principle, but gains more honor from the observance of his principles than he could gain by a right to feel proud of Mr. Tilley as a New Brunswicker who has from a medium position in society, by the force of native ability brought himself to a position where, a Minister in a Dominion like ours, he stands prominent before the eyes of his fellow-citizens and by people the world over. We have a right to be proud of this irrespective of our own limitations. As we have a greater pride in Mr. Tilley as an honest, consistent, open advocate, by practice and by precept, of our cherished temperance principles.

"Our young readers may learn a moral from this. Mr. Tilley would not hesitate to own that to his temperance principles and the associations which his advocacy of them induced, he is largely indebted for the success of his career. Let our young men remember this. Let them, if they feel an ambition to become known and useful in society, know that the same paths lead to similar results. Let them learn to ignore that weak fallacy of imbecile and foolish people, that the success of the upper circles of society to indulge in wine and other liquors, it is not because they are better than the lower circles, but because they are better than the lower circles, to refuse to do as they see others do. Only be sure your principles are right, and know that in living out right principles only fools and knaves will sneer at you, and that all true gentlemen—most critical women who know enough to be honorable—will respect you and your principles through you."

NEED TOBACCO IN SPAIN.

Frequently People Have to Stand in Line to Procure It.

In Spain the demand for smoking tobacco, cigars and cigarettes of local manufacture frequently exceeds the supply. For a period of weeks at a time, according to Vice Consul A. W. of Barcelona, the vending depots, known as "estancos," are without one or other of these commodities, and other times but one of these articles may be procured. The result is that it is a common practice for queues to form outside the establishments which form outside these establishments when distribution is about to be made. At times, these lines extend two blocks in length. Very often the stocks are exhausted long before the last would-be purchaser's turn arrives. This is notwithstanding the fact that the number of cigarettes of the quantity of tobacco sold to each purchaser is strictly limited.

The scarcity of manufactured tobacco is declared to be mainly due to the failure of the factories of the monopoly to meet the demand rather than to the lack of stocks of raw material. The strongest demand is for the rolled cigarettes, put up in packages of twenty-five each, retailing for 60 centimes, or about 9 cents. The prewar price of these packages was 50 centimes.

A study of the tables of imports of tobacco into Spain over the last three years shows a big gain in the amount of cigars and cigarettes imported, but a big drop in leaf tobacco. For example, in 1919 there were 276,434 pounds of cigars received in the country, the largest amount coming from Cuba. In 1921 this had increased to 468,947, with Cuba still the largest single source. In 1920 there was even more imported, the figure then being 606,091 pounds. The gain in the importation of cigars was tremendous, jumping from 19,281 pounds in 1919 to 6,064,609 pounds in 1920 and 5,097,861 pounds in 1921. On the other hand, imports of leaf tobacco receded from 70,422,464 pounds in 1919 to only 42,765,867 last year. The Philippines Islands and the United States.

It is pointed out that sales of foreign cigars and cigarettes in Spain, of course, are affected only through the Compania Arrendataria de Tabacos. By virtue of the monopoly held by this company, ever persons importing tobacco for their own use must pay a heavy tribute to the company.

B. C. SURPLUS FOR HALF YEAR NICE ONE

Victoria, B. C., Nov. 14.—British Columbia on its returns of revenue and expenditure has a surplus of \$818,101.57 for the first six months of the current year, according to a statement presented to the legislature by Hon. John Hart, minister of finance.

"NICE PEOPLE" DRAWS BIG HOUSE

Jazz Girl Heroine of Picture Shown at Imperial Yesterday Figure of Modern Ideas.

What may happen to the modern jazz girl in her pursuit of pleasure at any cost, is vividly portrayed in William de Mille's latest Paramount Picture, "Nice People," which is being shown at the Imperial again today.

The producer has achieved the unique distinction of presenting a vital problem of today in a manner that is entertaining, amusing and artistically perfect.

Rachel Crothers' play, of the same name, furnished the theme for Mr. de Mille's latest screen drama. Clara Beranger, who adapted the story for the screen, followed the original play in most important matters while adding several valuable scene sequences which the limitations of the stage forbade in the original story.

"A truly all-star cast is seen in 'Nice People.' Wallace Reid plays the role of the young man who is unacquainted with the modern and sophisticated girl. Bebe Daniels is delightful as the girl. Conrad Nagel gives one of the finest characterizations of his career as the male counterpart of the 'jazz girl.' Julia Faye is the villainess. If such a term can be applied to the catty young woman, who does her best to ruin the romance of her friend because both happen to love the same man.

The supporting cast is equally notable. Claire McDowell, Edward Martindel, Bertram Johns, Eve Southern, William Boyd and Ethel Wales are uniformly excellent in their respective roles.

The story of "Nice People" has to do with a modern girl who resents the sudden assertion of parental authority. In a fit of pique she finds herself accidentally in a seemingly compromising situation. The other man does not always understand, but he is always loyal. With his aid and the assistance of a sympathetic aunt, the girl does a right about face that brings happiness in the end, but only after some trying experiences for the young woman.

You will enjoy "Nice People." And if you are young or have youthful daughters, sisters or other feminine relatives you will do well to take them with you.

RECITAL AT THE IMPERIAL ENJOYED

Miss Helen Davis and Victor Young, with Edison Recreation, Delight Many.

Musical recitals by noted artists in—well, almost in—competition with their own art, reproduced on the Edison Records, have come to be looked forward to with anticipations of much delight by the citizens of St. John, and yesterday afternoon another such treat was enjoyed by a thronged house at the Imperial Theatre. Miss Helen Davis, mezzo soprano, and Victor Young, composer-pianist, each presented in their art, sang and played in a manner that would charm the most critical public and through all the intricacies and delicate tones and shades of tones, the phonograph faithfully re-created their music. All the tests that have been devised, the tests of hearing without seeing and of singing a counter-melody were tried and the instrument came forth with its ability unchallenged.

At the close of the programme each artist gave a few selections without the phonograph. Miss Davis' marvellously clear enunciation and her rich, sweet and highly musical voice were heard in "The Marriage of the Roses," by Oscar Franz, "The Joy Song," by Bussetti, "Morning Brother Sunshine," by Lehmann, and "Billy Goat" and "Little Pig," two songs to which composed by Mr. Young. Mr. Young is a versatile and talented composer and pianist. His audience enjoyed not only the beautiful music which he evoked but his manner of evoking those melodies. His touch and technique were faultless. For his solo numbers he played "Prelude," by Schmitt, "An Old-Fashioned Music Box" and "Avalanche," by Heller.

"SMILIN' THROUGH" A FINE DRAMA

Norma Talmadge in her Best Yet Scores Success at the Queen Square.

It may sound rather routine to say that Norma Talmadge has scored another screen success in her latest starring vehicle, "Smilin' Through," the First National attraction which began an engagement at the Queen Square Theatre last night.

And so we must go a little further and say that "Smilin' Through" is positively the best thing that Norma has yet done for the silent drama. More than that, it is a magnificent dramatic production in every respect. It is a new classic of the screen.

Norma is superb in the dual role which she plays in her thoroughly capable manner. She proves herself a great tragedienne as well as emotional actress in the part of Moonveen, who is killed by a jealous lover on her wedding day. She is charming, alluring, adorable as Kathleen, the little niece of Moonveen.

The story revolves itself around the romance of Kathleen and young Kenneth Wayne, son of the late John Cartwright, and Harrison Ford, as Kenneth Wayne and Jeremiah Wayne, give magnificent support to Miss Talmadge. The remainder of the cast, including Alec B. Francis, Glenn Hunter, Grace Livens, Miriam Battista and Eugene Lockhart, also do fine work.

Much credit, of course, is due to the efforts of Sidney Franklin, whose skillful direction is apparent throughout the screening of "Smilin' Through."

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