

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 5, 1922.

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THE MAYOR'S POLICY.

Mayor Schofield's hydro policy will not do. As a city St. John may be chief among the shiners, but it may well be feared that the offer of salvation through the New Brunswick Power Company will only harden the people's hearts.

Mayor Schofield proposes that the Musquash current be distributed by the New Brunswick Power Company for two years, the people paying a twelve cent rate the first year and eleven cents the second, and he suggests that at the expiration of two years a plebiscite be taken to decide the policy to be pursued thereafter.

That is to say, the mayor would lose two years time and at the end be just where we are now. This is not the gospel of penitence, but the doctrine of despair. It may appeal to the timid taxpayer, but not to the man who has faith in his city. And if the mayor believes the people will pay at the rate of more than ten cents per kilowatt hour for the distribution of a current that costs only 1.2 cents as a maximum, he must believe they have taken leave of their senses. The city would gain nothing in the two-year period, but the power company would have two years in which to throttle hydro and gain its own ends.

We may dismiss as unworthy of a moment's serious consideration the assumption that the provincial government and its technical advisers are reckless fools who are offering for sale goods they cannot deliver. Even Mr. R. A. Ross of Montreal admits in his report, to which Mayor Schofield pins his faith, that Musquash can produce much more current than St. John needs. The power is there. It is offered at a maximum of 1.2 cents per kilowatt hour. The fools in the case would be the people of St. John if they agreed to give the New Brunswick Power Company ten cents or more to deliver that 1.2 cent current to them.

The mayor makes it appear that the city is not financially in a position to expend the money required for civic distribution, but the conditions would be the same two years hence, except that the power company would be more firmly entrenched; and the city would have lost two years which should be devoted to the expansion of the market, which is the great essential in getting still cheaper light and power. Does anybody believe the power company would try to expand the market during that two years? If so he is even more simple-minded than the mayor and Mr. Ross appear to be.

What the city should do, and without delay, is to take the Musquash current, install a distribution system, and develop with all speed a market that would absorb the 8,000,000 kilowatt hours which would bring the rate down to four cents, instead of the twelve or eleven cents the mayor proposes.

His worship apparently cannot get rid of the thought that the power company has a street railway. What has that to do with the case? Are the people to have the threat of a stoppage of service to serve over them to frighten them into paying excessive rates for light and power? If they were of the sort that could be so frightened their case would be indeed hopeless.

It is quite unnecessary to follow the mayor through the course of reasoning which has brought him to a conclusion so gloomy and hopeless, nor with all the cards on the table will the thoughtful citizen who has faith in his city share those gloomy forebodings.

One very obvious result of the speeches of the mayor and Mr. Ross last night is found in today's Standard. That paper introduces politics and makes a savage attack upon the provincial government. Every effort will be made by the power company to belittle the issue and to frighten the taxpayers. Its reward if it could succeed would be the continuance of high rates for light and power to meet the deficit on street railway and gas plant, and to pay dividends on its preference stock. So far as the Standard is concerned, any opportunity to aid the power company will be seized with avidity. The citizens of St. John, however, have too much at stake to have their minds diverted from the plain fact that cheap light and power, and the expansion of industry which follows, are within their reach.

The people waited patiently to hear what Mayor Schofield had to say. He has stated his policy and given his reasons. Neither the one nor the other is acceptable.

Mayor Schofield and Mr. Ross of Montreal have given the opponents of the provincial government a text for many speeches. That the criticism is not well-founded will not worry the orators. All they want is an excuse, and by the time they have given their own interpretation of what was said at the mayor's meeting last night the expenditure at Musquash will appear as a monument to political folly. The matter cannot rest just there, however, and the government will no doubt be heard from.

WHO SWALLOWS THIS?

The attention of the business men of St. John who are thinking of handing hydro over to the New Brunswick Power Company is respectfully directed to this paragraph from the Standard: "If there is going to be an additional consumption of light and power it will have to be through the agency of new industries, and where are those to come from? Not from within the city, because there isn't enterprise enough in it to start up any new industry of any magnitude; and even if there were, the present cost of light and power would not deter the promoters in the least."

Has the Standard accurately described the business men of St. John? Have they no enterprise? Must their salvation come from without? If they had cheap power are they so dead that they could not be aroused to life and action? Surely the Standard itself would make one exception. We have the New Brunswick Power Company, which is bubbling over with enterprise and very keen to take the full benefit of the Musquash development.

Aside from the power company, however, do the people of St. John deserve to be branded as an unenterprising lot?

THE IRISH OUTLOOK

If peace does not come in Ireland within a reasonable period it will be because partisan feeling and religious rancor have passed all bounds. The main points of the peace agreement signed by representatives of the Irish Free State, the Ulster government, and the British government in London are as follows:

(1) Peace is declared; the two governments in Ireland agreeing to co-operate to restore order.

(2) The Belfast police in mixed districts are to be composed half of Catholics and half of Protestants, specially selected, uniformed, and numbered.

(3) Arms and ammunition to be under control, and searches for guns to be carried out by the mixed police squads.

(4) A special court of the highest Northern Justices to try men accused of serious crimes, without jury.

(5) A joint Catholic-Protestant committee to hear all complaints.

(6) Irish Republican Army activities in Ulster to cease, and a special police to take the place of the army.

(7) Further meeting to seek basis for unity to take place in the month after confirming of Free State constitution, when Ulster is to exercise its option on joining.

(8) British government to ask Parliament for a relief fund not exceeding £500,000 for Northern Ireland, while the northern signatories agree to use their efforts to reinstate expelled workmen.

Referring to this agreement Mr. Arthur Griffith said before leaving London: "The document we Irishmen on both sides signed last night will, if carried out in the spirit of the signatories, give us later a unified Ireland. Every honest and sensible Irishman, whatever his creed, desires such an Ireland. We stand for it, and despite the prejudice of the past we are now on the threshold of this achievement through understanding and good will."

The chief obstacle to the realization of the hopes of Mr. Griffith is the attitude of the extreme republicans, and of them, noting that the Free State government wants peace, the Ulster government wants peace, the New York Evening Post pointedly remarks: "It is now for the republican firebrands to say whether they alone will hold out for war in Ireland. And time is not only a question of Irish peace but of Irish unity. It is difficult to read the terms of the Collins-Craig agreement, with its provisions for Protestant and Catholic co-operation in maintaining order in Ulster, without foreseeing a time not so far away when Ulster and the Free State will be co-operating for maintaining and fostering the interests of a united Irish nation. The republican extremists, if they carry out their threats, will be doing more than destroying Irish peace. They will be destroying the hope of that Irish unity which De Valera has repeatedly said is a higher good than republican 'doctrinism.'"

Even the Standard will observe that Mayor Schofield has sent that 6.22 cent rate a glimmering. He has almost doubled it. And yet the Kirby-Phillips report says the power company would distribute 5,000,000 kilowatt hours at 6.22 cents. Why present the company with another five or six cents? That question was not satisfactorily answered last night, nor can it be so answered.

Is St. John in the gift business? The view was expressed at last night's meeting in the Imperial that the hydro question should not figure in the civic elections. Why not? It is vital to the future of St. John.

APRIL'S ORDER.

Said little Madam April
To the mighty Weather Man:
"I'd like to have you send me
As promptly as you can
A billion yards of bluest sky,
A box of gentle showers,
(And please omit the winter frost
That bites the little flowers);
"I want a lot of sunshine
I can sprinkle all around.
It makes the people happy
And fixes up the ground
Where I shall start a million seeds—
The garden kind, you know—
And summertime will bring them up
The way they ought to go."

"I've thirty April children
That I pay you with this year,
They're not exactly perfect,
But much admired, I hear.
Although they're temperamental, they
Are pleasing, as a rule,
And out of thirty children there
Is only one a fool."
—Nan Terrell Reed, in New York Times.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Eternal Feminine.
Ho—"How true it is that the older we grow the less we appreciate the things that used to delight us in childhood!"
She—"Yes, especially birthdays."
Quite So.
"What is a synonym, James?" asked the teacher.
"It's a word you can use when you don't know how to spell the one you thought of first," replied Jimmy, cheerfully.

The Dear Things.

Miss Thin—"Don't you think my new dress is just exquisite? They all say so."
Fannie—"Oh, lovely! I think that dressmaker of yours could make a clothes-prop look graceful!"

HEAR H. R. McLELLAN ON THURSDAY NIGHT

H. R. McLellan will hold a public meeting in the Imperial Theatre on Thursday evening, April 6, at 8 o'clock. It is the intention to discuss the hydro electric issue, and particularly Mayor Schofield's policy as recorded last evening.

Every candidate for civic honors is invited and each will be given a reasonable amount of time to express his views.

Mayor Schofield is particularly invited and will be given an opportunity to reply to Mr. McLellan, who will reserve the right to a few concluding remarks.

SANDY CORBET'S PLATFORM

1—Civic control of Hydro
What this city wants—badly—is a definite "break away" from such municipal control as the N. B. Power Co. as is exercised by the N. B. Power Co. There is no middle course to adopt. The motto, "Do it Now," was never more appropriate.

The provincial government is no fool, and it is not guaranteeing goods it can not deliver.

Let us get busy—right away. Appoint five engineers without pay.

We have been talking over seven months. Take the next month and do something. That's me all over—civic control.—Adv't.

SIR JOHN EATON.

"The death of Sir John Eaton," said Mayor Macdonald of Toronto, "will come as a great shock, not only to the citizens of Toronto, but to the people of the entire Dominion of Canada. Sir John was widely known, and those who came into intimate contact with him will deeply mourn his loss. He was a democrat, broad and generous in all his dealings. He had the reputation of being Toronto's merchant prince."

"He rendered splendid service to this country during the war, and by his inspiring example the vast organization of which he was the head functioned for Canada and the empire with a united front."

"He was a man of great public spirit, and the support he gave to the Toronto General Hospital and to the Department of Medicine of the University of Toronto will be enduring monuments to his name. We will mourn his loss as individuals and as citizens of this great city, and our heartfelt sympathy goes out to his widow and family and to his mother, Mrs. Timothy Eaton."

A WORLD NEEDED.

What one thing does the world need most today—apart, that is, from an exclusive thing we call righteousness? Aren't you inclined to agree with me that the most needed thing is just the art of being kind? Every time I visit a factory of any other large business concern, I find myself trying to diagnose whether the atmosphere is one of kindness or the reverse. And somehow, if there is palpably lacking that the owners, or the executives, have a fallen short of achieving twenty-four-carat success no matter how imposing the financial balance sheet may be. Don't these lines sum up, briefly yet comprehensively, what the world needs today? A little more kindness and a little less greed;

A little more giving and a little less greed;

A little more smile and a little less frown;

A little less kicking a man when he's down;

A little more "we" and a little less "I";

A little more laugh and a little less cry;

A little more flowers on the pathway of life;

And a fewer on graves at the end of the strife.

A VALUABLE DEVICE.

The vessels of the Canadian Pacific services have been fitted with "clear view screen," designed to aid the officers in thick weather and give them a clear view ahead. This device is a circular glass in a brass socket, looking very much like a port hole. Attached to it is a small motor which whirls the glass at the rate of 2,000 revolutions a minute. The centrifugal force of the motion throws aside rain, snow or other moisture as fast as it comes in contact with the glass, which is thus kept clear and dry at all times.

MURDOCK ASSAILS McLEACHLAN PLAN OF CURTAILMENT

Resembles Tactics Employed by I. W. W. During War. Says Minister—Fight the "Reds" to Finish.

(Special to Montreal Gazette.)
Ottawa, March 30.—Hon. James Murdock, minister of labor, came out with a declamatory and courageous declaration this afternoon in the House of Commons against the tactics of J. B. MacLachlan, the organizer of the striking miners in Nova Scotia.

It was refreshing to hear a minister of labor give a reason for the faith that was in him in a tone that was unequivocal and in a manner that left no room for doubt.

Whatever one may think of the parliamentary style of Hon. James Murdock which leaves much to be desired from the point of view of polish and restraint, no word of criticism can be offered as to his courage and desire to see fair play given to the employer of labor as well as to labor itself.

The discussion arose from a motion on the part of William Irvine, labor member from Calgary, to adjourn the House for the purpose of drawing attention to the serious state of affairs existing in Nova Scotia owing to the miners' strike affecting some twelve thousand men.

Mr. Irvine presented his case moderately and temperately, and recommended that Mr. Howard Ross, K. C., of Montreal, be appointed to inquire into the whole points at issue, and present a report to the government.

The Minister of Labor also gave a detailed statement of the events leading up to the strike, and delighted the house with a dramatic rendering of the correspondence between himself and J. B. MacLachlan of the United Mine Workers.

He acknowledged that the Department of Labor has endeavored to step in and settle the differences, but had received no encouragement from the miners.

Dealing with sabotage and the order to "beat on the job" as given by Organizer MacLachlan, he denounced such tactics as un-British and un-Canadian. He stated that it was a misfortune that he and the Minister of Labor were not able to strike on the job. To labor men who would advocate such a policy he would say "forget it."

He handed to labor organizers and to labor generally many words of advice and never on the floor of the Canadian House of Commons has there been any public man who spoke out so strongly and emphatically to the workers of Canada.

He urged labor to be fair and decent, and although as an organizer during sixteen years he had given orders for strikes against any other organizer, he had never countenanced "loafing on the job."

Labor, he said, should all the time give a fair day's work for a fair day's pay. In venturing to say direct language he charged Organizer MacLachlan and his friends who advocated sabotage with being in sympathy with the I. W. W. in every aim and ambition. They were afraid to come out in the full light of the Canadian day.

Mr. Murdock also stated that if he had again in the ranks of labor as a humble worker he would fight "loafing on the job."

At the end of his speech he cleared the decks, and, when he had finished, he said, "I am a labor man, and I am a Canadian. I am not going to show the white feather and knuckle down to him."

"We must combat," he said, "J. B. MacLachlan and his I. W. W. theory. We are not going to show the white feather and knuckle down to him."

"We can't submit," he continued, "to the tactics of the Reds," and he brought loud cheers from all parts of the house.

"We must meet them, and fight them man fashion."

Concluding, he charged that the same tactics are now being used in the Nova Scotia strike as were used during the war by the I. W. W. in other plants.

He would not stand for them, and would not pussyfoot as minister of labor. Therefore he did not think a royal commission should be appointed at the behest of men of the type of MacLachlan.

SAYS THAT LIGHT FINES AID POISON LIQUOR SALES

Kings County, N. Y., Grand Jury Declares Courts are Too Easy on Offenders—Chronic Violators Freed.

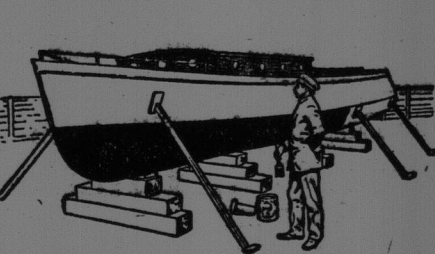
(New York Times)
"The illegal sale of poisoned hooch" is encouraged, according to a presentation of the Kings County Grand Jury yesterday by the practice of courts imposing nominal fines virtually equivalent to the license fees in the days when sales were legal.

The Grand Jury likewise urged that the police be more active in making arrests, so as to avoid bringing into court defendants against whom little or no evidence exists. Further restrictions on permits for firearms, jail sentences for second offenders and a better system of dealing with automobile thefts were also urged by the Grand Jury.

"Cases came to the attention of the Grand Jury," the presentation said, "where sentence has been suspended after many convictions. To the amazement of the Grand Jury one case was presented where, after twenty offenses, sentence was suspended on the twenty-first offense."

The Grand Jury questioned Police Commissioner Enright at considerable length, and in its presentation says: "The Grand Jury found itself much interested in the cases brought before it for illegal possession and transportation of alcoholic liquor. In many instances the evidence presented was quite inconclusive. Complaints against formerly licensed liquor saloons, made as a result of routine inspections by officers, were generally not supported by convincing evidence of the actual sales of alcoholic liquor in their possession in and dry at all times."

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HOUSECLEANING HELPS FOR SPRING

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majority of cases such a one is usually a "fence" for the thief. "In defense there is a plausible story as to the acquiring of the car, as to the changed motor numbers, but never a report of inquiry of the car manufacturer for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not such a motor number was ever issued."

With arrangements completed for her removal to a sanitarium, Mrs. Irving Heagy, 44, murdered her husband at York, Pa., while he slept. She had shown traces of insanity for some time.

Shipment to the Orient of a portable garage has led to a flood of Japanese orders for U. S. ready cut houses, more than \$100,000 of which are going across the Pacific on every steamer.

ECZEMA

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in order to check the traffic in stolen automobiles the jury recommended, first, that insurance companies write insurance only on cars who parts bear their original numbers; second, that the Secretary of State issue licenses only for cars which have been examined, and

third, that the law require purchasers of automobiles to make diligent inquiry to assure themselves that the sellers have clear titles to the property sold. The presentation continues: "The police recover many stolen cars. They find them in the hands of innocent purchasers who are usually able to show a bill of sale some person of questionable antecedents. That person, in turn, produces a bill of sale, but is not able to produce his vendor. In a large

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