

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 11, 1918.

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THE POWER FIGHT AT FREDERICTON.

Advocates of the power company will not be able to tell members of the legislature of any Canadian community which is compelled to pay from \$2 to \$2.50 a thousand feet for gas of an inferior quality, or of any community which has submitted to six cent street car fares and an additional charge of one cent for transfers. The company's advocates may be willing to present a plain comparison of electric light and power rates here and in other Canadian communities, but if they do not the information should be secured, because it is vital.

Is some friend or spokesman of the power company ready to tell the Legislature of some Canadian city in which the capitalization of the public utilities monopoly was doubled in twenty-four hours, without any increase in the value of the plant or in the services rendered? That happened in St. John. The old company was earning good dividends on a capitalization of \$2,000,000. Today there is a capitalization of almost \$4,000,000, on precisely the same property, but giving no better services, and St. John is confronted with a demand for an increase in rates sufficient to pay dividends upon the inflated securities, most of which bear a much higher interest charge than the old ones.

If the Legislature should consent, at the solicitation of the power company, to establish the precedent asked for, the result would not merely be to penalize the citizens of St. John. The precedent would invite some speculative group to buy a public utility in Montreal, or in Fredericton, or some other place, double the capitalization, and demand rates sufficient to provide dividends on the water. A similar opportunity might suggest itself in the form of a telephone merger or some form of telephone re-organization. It must be clear that the issue is general, not local.

The Legislature will naturally desire to know how much actual cash the owners of the New Brunswick Power Company invested in the St. John Railway Company's property. Having ascertained that, steps will be necessary to show what rates would be reasonable and would provide a fair return upon the investment under prudent management. Any suggestion that St. John should pay more for public utilities than is paid in similar communities elsewhere in Canada is necessarily un sound and demands thorough investigation. Furthermore, the citizens who provide the company's entire revenue are entitled to a measure of control over the company's operations, not only to protect them from undue exactions, but to enable them to compel the company to give good value for their money. Under the present charter the rights of the citizens are not guarded, and no authority is established, from which the city may demand a speedy remedy.

Mr. Cormie says, like many before him, that country life must be made more attractive in a social way, and therefore must prepare the children for country life, instead of, as at present, mainly for city life. Dr. J. W. Robertson, chairman of Canada's Technical Education Commission, has testified that "the system of education in the country schools is not of the sort that prepares young people to live in the country with advantage."

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gates rural conditions the commission found that education should do more to prepare children for the problems they might be expected to encounter. Roosevelt said there should be more schools which prepare the children for country life, instead of, as at present, mainly for city life. Dr. J. W. Robertson, chairman of Canada's Technical Education Commission, has testified that "the system of education in the country schools is not of the sort that prepares young people to live in the country with advantage."

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Fortunately something is now being done to give the school children an increasing amount of instruction as to agricultural conditions, and this sort of instruction will doubtless be further enlarged. It will bear good fruit, particularly along with the children receive from their teachers and their parents, as much by example as by words of advice, a better understanding as to the true meaning of success and the real value of contentment and philosophy.

IT'S OUR PROBLEM, TOO.

The Nova Scotia superintendent of education, Dr. MacKay, in his annual report places his finger on two weaknesses of the system in that province, which exist also in the New Brunswick system, and should be remedied. He says:

"Two insistent outstanding problems are not yet satisfactorily solved. The first, to which I have referred in each of my late reports, is the provision for the segregation and, when possible, the education of the retarded and feeble-minded. Halifax City has already provided two departments for retarded pupils.

"The other is the provision of some effective general plan to ensure the medical and dental inspection of school children in every school, rural as well as urban. In our cities, some of our towns and a portion of rural Colchester, this is already being well done. But it is desirable that no school should be considered as conducted according to law until evidence is presented in connection with its returns, that this has been done. There are provincial health officers, and there may some time be a Dominion health department. How can the school trustees best articulate with these health officials? The military tests applied to our men enlisting show how very great is the need of more attention to health conditions in the family at home as well as in the school."

The war news is far from cheery. Armistices has been lost. The fighting is desperate. While the Germans are paying heavily for their successes, it is a fact they are still making gains. Commentators on the news from the battlefield now believe that the enemy is making a determined effort to annihilate British resistance and very severe work is ahead.

Mr. Lloyd George's government has challenged the Commons to accept its man power bill or provide a new government. The cables indicate the former as the likely outcome of the debate.

British pluck and doggedness at Givenchy on Wednesday prevented the Germans winning the important heights overlooking the Lys valley. It was another glorious incident of the war.

The Irish situation is beginning to assume a grave aspect.

Wage advances granted since Aug. 7, 1915 at the Bayonne, N. J., plant of the Standard Oil Co., total from 79 to 98 per cent.

Federal officials allege the Philadelphia police are both inefficient and corrupt as regards the eradication of vice.

When President Roosevelt, a few years ago, appointed a commission to investi-

THE FIGHTING AT GIVENCHY

British Made Brilliant Stand and Won Back Village

SANGUINARY BATTLE

Combat at Close Quarters For Hours—Enemy Were Intent on Winning Hill Which Overlooks Valley of the Lys

With the British Army in France, April 10—(By the Associated Press)—The Germans were intent on getting Givenchy Hill, which overlooks the whole valley of the Lys. The British holding this position made a brilliant stand. During the day, after an intense attack, the Germans succeeded in getting into Givenchy, but the British immediately counter-attacked and drove them out after fierce fighting at close quarters, in the meantime hammering the back areas heavily with their artillery. In the evening the Germans surged forward again in strong forces and once more got a footing in about half the village. The British countered savagely and forced the enemy back once more, until the whole line at this point was re-established. Here the defenders held out all night in the face of heavy assaults, which were continuing this morning. The battle also went on most of the night, but the enemy not only was unable to make progress, but lost ground here. Givenchy was the pivot of the battle, and the most important position along the line, for the high ground here dominates the whole Lys Valley. The enemy tried to work round the place, and twice succeeded in getting into the town, but each time he was stormed out by the grimly fighting division which is holding this section of the front.

The battle in Givenchy was sanguinary. For hours the contending forces fought at close quarters with rifles and hand grenades. The nature of the British defense may be seen from the fact that one British division was being attacked by four German divisions and an extra brigade.

The German artillery fire of yesterday and today has been terrific. Great concentration of guns have been hurling steady streams of high explosives far back of the lines, and virtually every village within reach of the long range.

Ladies' Dark Tan Calf Eight Inch Laced Boot With Neolin Sole and Rubber Heel

\$7.00, \$8.00 and \$9.00 Per Pair

This boot is a Splendid Type for our Climate; Dressy the Best of Style, Serviceable, and the sensible height heel makes them an ideal walking boot.

All sizes now in stock. Buy at once, as the \$7.00 grade will not be continued at this low price.

FRANCIS & VAUGHAN

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Now Is The Time

Carson Garage is the place to have your Ford car overhauled and repaired. All employees are experts on Ford cars, as we specialize on them.

63 Elm Street, North End

TELEPHONE M 3085

Foley's Stone Linings

THAT LAST

TELEPHONE MAIN 1801

Don't Let The Fire Burn There To The Ground

A LIFETIME OF SUFFERING

Prevented by "Fruit-a-lives," the Wonderful Fruit Medicine

88 Malsonneuve St. Hall, Que.

"In my opinion, no other medicine is so good as 'Fruit-a-lives' for indigestion and Constipation."

"For years I suffered with these dreaded diseases, trying all kinds of treatments until I was told I was incurable. 'One day a friend told me to try 'Fruit-a-lives.' To my surprise, I found this medicine gave immediate relief, and in a short time I was all right again."

DONAT LALONDE.

Box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c. At all dealers or from Fruit-a-lives Limited, Ottawa.

guns have come under the punishment of state.

The Y. W. P. A. had charge of the contest. The program was given by the first line trawlers when the army was in the line.

Canada.

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

GEORGE THE FIFTH, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, KING, Defender of the Faith, WILLIAM PUGSLEY

To All to Whom These Presents Shall Come, or Whom the Same may Concern—Greeting:

WHEREAS, it has been made clear that an adequate supply of foodstuffs to Great Britain and her Allies is now one of the most critical and essential problems in connection with carrying the war to a triumph;

And Whereas, our Province of New Brunswick, by virtue of its geographical situation in comparative proximity to the Motherland, occupies a position of special responsibility and opportunity;

And Whereas, the season approaches which shall determine for another year the amount of foodstuffs which this Province shall produce;

We, therefore, believing it to be the aspiration of our people to discharge their responsibilities as in the past, and confident of their willingness to take advantage of the opportunity involved, to the end that the cause of righteousness for which we always have been advanced, have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Executive Council for our Province of New Brunswick, to appoint, and do hereby appoint a week of Dedication and Preparation for the period of production approaching, beginning on the fifteenth April instant.

And we do hereby urge and request that the County Council of each and every County of our Province of New Brunswick, be convened in special session on Saturday, the thirteenth April instant, to consider ways and means to stimulate or assist in the maximum production of essential foodstuffs in the respective Counties.

And we do hereby further urge and request that each and every Clergyman of our Province of New Brunswick, shall, on the day of the Dedication, address his flock on the subject of the Dedication and Preparation for the period of production approaching, beginning on the fifteenth April instant.

All of which premises all our loving subjects and all others whom it doth or may in anywise concern, are hereby required to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

In testimony whereof we have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of Our Province of New Brunswick to be hereunto affixed.

Witness, His Honor William Pugsley, D. C. L., K. C. One of Our Privy Council for Canada, Lieutenant-Governor of Our Province of New Brunswick, this second day of April, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighteen, and in the eighth year of Our Reign.

By Command, ROBERT MURRAY, 4-19 Provincial Secretary-Treasurer.

PUBLIC MEETING

Agreeably to the spirit of the proclamation of His Honor Lieutenant-Governor, urging the people of New Brunswick to dedicate and prepare themselves for the period of production approaching, and in accordance with the request of the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture for the Province of New Brunswick, I would ask the Citizens of St. John to assemble in the Seamen's Mission Institute, Prince William street, on FRIDAY EVENING, April 12th, at 8 o'clock, in order that they should hear an important message from the Dr. James W. Robertson, speaking on behalf of the Food Board of Canada.

Representatives of all the ladies' patriotic organizations, as well as of the County Council, the Board of Trade, the Canadian Club, the Rotary Club and kindred bodies, are particularly invited to attend, so that the careful consideration and patriotic co-operation of all citizens in the urgent matters to be set forth may be obtained.

R. T. HAYES, Mayor.

EQUITABLE FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY

ANDREW JACK, Agent

65 Prince William Street

Boat and Yacht Hardware

Now is the time to look over your craft and make the necessary repairs before the season opens up.

We have a very complete assortment of Boat and Yacht Hardware, such as:

Turnbuckles, Thimbles, Cleats, Swivels, Rowlocks, Steering Wheels, Brass Cabin Locks and Catches.

Marine Paints and Varnishes, Marine Motors and Motor Boats Accessories, also all kinds of Steam-fittings and Engineers' Supplies.

McAvity & Sons Ltd.

Emerson & Fisher Ltd.

New Perfection Oil Cook Stoves

The New Perfection is the Successful Oil Stove Today.

The concentration of heat at the burners prevents overheating of the kitchen in summer.

New Perfection Ovens are superior to any other portable oven that has ever been made and its baking qualities cannot be surpassed.

Comfort—Satisfaction—Economy.

Surprise your wife with one and she will appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Store Open Saturday Evenings

Emerson & Fisher Ltd.

LOCAL NEWS

Corporal H. M. Mahwinney has been promoted to be sergeant, according to word received by his mother, Mrs. R. T. Mahwinney of Mac's Bay. He is with the 7th Siege Battery.

Lieut. G. B. Hallett of the 26th won his military cross by successfully holding a position 300 yards in advance of the first line trenches when the battalion on his left had failed to get forward.

It is announced that Lieut. R. N. Jago of the Infantry has been awarded the military cross. He is a brother of Captain Jago of the engineering staff at Halifax.

(Sergeant J. G. Emalie, former Lake of the Woods representative here, and for some time prisoner of war in Germany, is now in Holland, having been transferred.

A course of lectures for all officers of the St. John garrison will be carried out by the local military authorities. Captain Heron, general staff officer M. D. No. 7, will deliver the first lecture.

At the meeting of the Soldiers Comforts Association yesterday afternoon it was reported that 2,201 pairs of socks were donated and 1,841 knit, making a total of 8,642 socks for the month. It was decided to present membership pins to the commercial travellers who helped the association on tag day.

Two entertainments were given for the soldiers last evening by the military. Y. M. C. A., one for the conserved men at the army and the other at the 32nd barracks, West St. John. The programme carried out at the army was in charge of Lady Roberts Chapter, I. O. D. E. Miss Anderson and Corporal Baker sang solos. W. C. Ross occupied the chair. Three reels of motion pictures were shown. The Y. W. P. A.,

St. John, April 9, 1918.

Electors of the City of Saint John

Ladies and Gentlemen— Please let me take this opportunity of thanking you most sincerely for the magnificent vote you gave me on the 8th inst.

If I receive the same measure of support from your hands on the 22nd inst. it will place me in a position to serve you at the common council—you can if I am elected in the final count upon me to do my utmost to further the interests of St. John to the very best of my ability.

I beg to state I am not tied up to any corporation or company.

To those who did not vote for me on Monday last, I can only say that you will have every opportunity to do so on the 22nd inst., and hereby thank you in anticipation of your support.

Yours sincerely, E. J. HILYARD.

COAL

Best Quality Reasonable Prices

R. P. & W. F. STARR, Ltd.

SAVED HARDWOOD and GOOD SOFT COAL

The Colwell Fuel Co., Ltd.

J. F. BIRCH, Mgr.

Reserve, Sydney Soft Coal and Hardwood

Good Goods—Promptly Delivered.

A. E. WHELFLEY

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