

The Evening Times-Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 29, 1924

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THE CIVIC ELECTIONS.

Mr. Frink L. Potts pretty well swept the city yesterday, defeating Mayor Fisher by a great majority and winning a signal proof of public confidence. The re-election of Commissioner Frink upsets the record, for hitherto the man at the head of the Public Works Department has never won a second term. Dr. Frink shows that it can be done. Mr. W. L. Harding is the new commissioner, succeeding Mr. Thornton, and to him will fall a department requiring no little courage and executive ability. The vocational school plan was adopted.

More than seventy-seven per cent of the eligible vote was cast. It is to be seen that interest in the final was keen. It is evident, too, that hydro was by no means the only issue in the minds of the electors. A great majority of them evidently believe there are many other questions of importance within the field of civic action. The platform of the Mayor-elect stressed principally the importance of progress and proposes as one means to that end the relief of improvements from taxation for a five-year period.

The elections over, it is the duty of all good citizens to forget election differences and unite in giving the new Council full support in every sound or progressive policy it develops. The Mayor, and there will be a very general and reasonable disposition to deal fairly and generously with him and to believe that he has the good of the city at heart. The signal vote of confidence in him is in itself a great tribute from his fellow-citizens, a tribute such as should cause any man to give in return service of the highest character of which he is capable. Mr. Potts has won his way to a post of honor filled by many occasions by men who proved to be public spirited in the best sense of the term and real leaders in the matter of civic progress. He has a wonderful opportunity and a man of action it will be assumed that he will lose no time in giving the Council and the city at large leadership of the character demanded by the conditions confronting the taxpayers, who look not only to domestic problems but beyond these to those larger issues, which, if rightly handled, will tend to send this worthy and ambitious city forward along the line of its hopes.

The defeated candidates had a host of friends, who are naturally disappointed, but they are good citizens and will be ready, like those who voted for the successful candidates, to give the new Council hearty support in any sound action it may take. The Council and the city at large leadership of the character demanded by the conditions confronting the taxpayers, who look not only to domestic problems but beyond these to those larger issues, which, if rightly handled, will tend to send this worthy and ambitious city forward along the line of its hopes.

HOW MANY?

Perhaps the following should be printed under the caption, "Don't All Speak at Once." An American contemporary publishes it with this question, "Who Would Do It Next?" New ideas are frequently far less worth while than old ones. In some departments of thinking and acting there has been no advance in the last two thousand years.

Socrates, great philosopher of Greece, lived long before the Christian era. Like many another good man in the world's history, he was finally condemned to death by the majority of his fellow-citizens. He was only condemned to death by opinion, but it amounts to the same thing.

After the sentence of Socrates his friends told him that by questioning means a pardon might be had. The reply of Socrates comes as a jolt in these law-lax days. He said: "It is better that I should die than the laws of Athens be broken."

Who is there of us today who cares so much about the preservation of the laws of this Nation? This awkward question is asked just now by the Toledo Blade, and throughout the United States there is an extensive crusade on foot to increase general respect for all laws, particularly those intended to protect life and property. The American criminal record having been held up by many eminent authorities as a disgrace to the country, it is too much to expect, obviously, that a great proportion of the American population shall reach the Greek philosopher's high level of respect for law and love for the law and is equally obvious that in multiplying laws the modern peoples have sought too much to legislate themselves into virtue instead of giving thought to the national character building which would render so many laws unnecessary and give firm popular support to those remaining ones which would still be necessary to the safety and the same progress of the state and the people.

Too many laws lack the support of a strong public opinion, or rather, conviction. The remedy for lawlessness

Hall the President was in a fix. Still, he was game. This is what he said: "He was a forward character. He impressed himself upon a great city, and for many years he was an influential force there." And right there Mr. Coolidge stopped. No doubt he felt that it was time. If he had kept on he might have said something.

In spite of the American duty of forty-two cents a bushel more Canadian wheat than ever is going to United States millers at present. Winnipeg exporters say the tariff designed to shut out Canadian wheat has been without effect.

Are you one of those who by carelessness or recklessness are burning our forests? Or are you one of those who exercise both care and vigilance and who seek to influence others to stop a vast and criminal waste?

The new Council will find among its legacies from the old one a few questions like the fate of the old Court House and the proposal to take East St. John into the family.

Press Comment

KNEW IT AT ONCE.

(Ottawa Journal.)

A correspondent writes to tell us he knew the minute we disagreed with him that we were demagogues.

QUITE A NEST OF THEM.

(Sheburne Economist.)

Bombs are supposed to be very much out of place in a bank, but don't seem to have kept the Home Bank from having a lot of them concealed in its books.

THE JOY OF WORK.

(San Francisco Chronicle.)

When real interest is injected into our daily tasks, that which we call work really becomes a pleasure. When we make a joy of it we eliminate the element of drudgery. The natural result is that the best that is in us asserts itself, stimulates our ambitions and leads on to success.

HANDSOME CONTRADICTIONS.

(Toronto Star.)

Just now girls enveloped in fur coats and wearing silk stockings and satin slippers are causing grandpapas to wonder what the world is coming to. Here we are living in a temperate zone, yet the girls dress their heads and feet as if they were living at the Equator, and clothe their bodies as if they were living in the Arctic regions.

BUT THE MACHINE GOES ON.

(N. Y. Herald-Tribune.)

It would be indulging in futile hope to predict that the passing of Murphy means the passing of Tammany. He was but its creature. The organization will remain and the old methods will continue as a menace to clean and progressive government. But even though, in the opinion of this newspaper, Murphy's vision of the future of New York would have proved illusory, his was a remarkable career, and from the Tammany point of view, an astonishingly successful one. It will be long before the organization will find a leader so exactly fitted to its capacity.

JAPANESE ELECTIONS.

(Victoria Colonist.)

Next month France and Germany, and also Japan, hold general elections. The result of these, without a doubt, will exercise a profound influence on the future attitude of these nations towards world politics. Japan has been passing through a series of political storms during recent months. It is, indeed, the unpopularity of her present government which has forced an election at this time which is in some respects a fearful moment in the history of the country. There has been a slump in progress for the past three years. Wages have fallen, trade has declined, but the high prices induced by economic conditions arising out of the war still persist. Japan too has the problem of a population which is outgrowing her boundaries, and this is being particularly brought home to her by the increasing severity of the legislation against her nationals by the United States. Another problem is that of reconstructing the areas devastated by the recent great earthquake. The political uncertainty in the country never was so great, for new parties are being formed and old parties are, seemingly, losing ground.

In Japan, which has a population of 60,000,000, the franchise is limited, in fact there are only some three and half million voters. What all are agreed upon, even those who oppose it, is that there is a new political current running through the nation. The elections will decide its direction and its force. It is indefinable now, but the possibilities are that it will exercise a considerable influence on the future of the Japanese people. The only certainty that exists is that the present government is doomed to defeat in the May elections.

MARITIME MATTERS.

(Amherst News.)

Mr. Hoey, one of the Progressive members who visited the Maritimes last week, expresses a new sympathy for these provinces, but states he does not know how more Western traffic can be diverted through Halifax and St. John.

This is a new problem. It is old as confederation. Maritime Province delegates were greatly concerned over these very matters, but there was an assurance from the Canadian delegates that any losses that were suffered from closing of American business would be compensated for by new business from Quebec and Ontario. The construction of the Intercolonial was the first step to meet this demand. Because the other promises were not included in the British North America Act, there is a tendency now to deny that any such promises were made.

The same situation developed again when construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific was in contemplation. Sir Wilfrid Laurier wanted all Canadian railways. He wanted to be absolutely free from the United States. "Pray

At 80 Years Of Age Was Troubled With Shortness Of Breath Palpitation of the Heart And Fainting Spells

Mrs. M. O'Connor, Whitesboro, Ont., writes: "I have been troubled, most of my life, with shortness of breath, palpitation of the heart and fainting spells. I was advised by a friend to try Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, which I did, and at once found relief, and I have never had a really bad spell since."

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YOUNG SEAGULL MAKES FIRST FLIGHT

Liam O'Flaherty tells, in a Newfoundland paper, how the young seagull ventured on his first flight in the following manner: The young seagull was alone on his ledge. His two brothers and his sister had already flown away the day before. He had been afraid to fly with them. Somehow when he had taken a little run forward to the brink of the ledge and attempted to flap his wings he became afraid. The great expanse of sea stretched down before him, and it was such a long way down—miles down. He felt certain that his wings would never support him, so he bent his head and ran away back to the little hole under the ledge where he slept at night.

Every now and then he would see his two brothers, and his sister, whose wings were far shorter than his own, ran to the brink, flapped their wings and flew away. He failed to muster up courage to take that plunge which appeared to him so desperate.

His mother and mother had come around, calling to him shrilly, upbraiding him, threatening to let him starve on his ledge unless he flew away. But for the life of him he could not move.

That was twenty-four hours ago. Since then nobody had come near him. The day before, all day long, he had watched his parents flying about with his brothers and sister, perfecting them in the art of flight, teaching them how to skim the waves and how to dive for a fish. He had, in fact, seen his older brother catch his first herring and devour it, standing on a rock, while his parents circled round raising a proud cheer.

He stepped slowly out to the brink of the ledge, and standing on one leg with the other hidden under his wing, he closed one eye, then the other, and pretended to be falling asleep. He saw his two brothers, and his sister lying on the plateau, dosing with their heads sunk into the grass. His father was peering the feathers on his white back.

Only his mother was looking at him. She was standing on a little high breast on the plateau, her white breast thrust forward. Now and again she tore at a piece of fish that lay at her feet, and then scraped each side of her beak on the rock. The sight of the food maddened him. How he loved to tear food that way, scraping his beak and again to wet it. He uttered a low cackle. His mother cackled too, and looked over at him.

"Ga, ga, ga," he cried begging her to bring him over some food. "Gaw-coolah," she screamed back, but he kept calling plaintively and after a minute or so he uttered a joyful scream. His mother had picked up a piece of fish and was flying across to him with it. He leaned out eagerly.

When He Found It Sorridge was well known at the city restaurant for being the meanest man who had ever eaten there. He never gave any chance left a tip for the waiter, and added to that he always expected more consideration than any other customer.

On one occasion he was getting ready to go when he dropped half-a-crown on the floor.

"Water," he said, as he paid his bill. "I've just dropped two half-crowns on the floor. Find them for me, will you?" The waiter searched under the table.

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AN HONORED FAMILY.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

Hon. A. Claude Macdonell, who died on Good Friday after a long illness and whose body was laid in the grave yesterday, belonged to a United Empire Loyalist family, members of which have given distinguished service to Canada and the Empire. Some members of that family, like Brigadier-General Archibald Macdonell, Mr. Macdonell's brother and successor in the Canadian Senate, and Major-General Sir A. C. Macdonell, have had honorable and successful military careers. Mr. Macdonell himself was for seventeen years in public life as a member of the Dominion Parliament and devoted himself unsparingly to his duties as a legislator. Toronto has no more zealous representative at Ottawa than he.

IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG—

For gossip to assassinate a reputation. For conceit to spoil a future. For envy to make us unhappy. For chickens to come home to roost. For boys to learn their father's vices. For grudges to become hatreds.

Book your passage for MAY

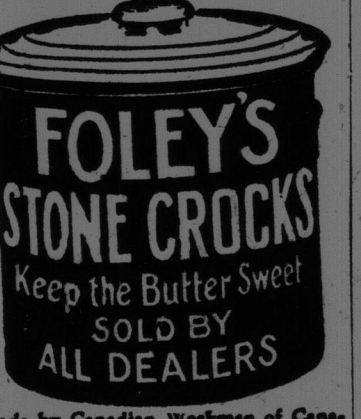
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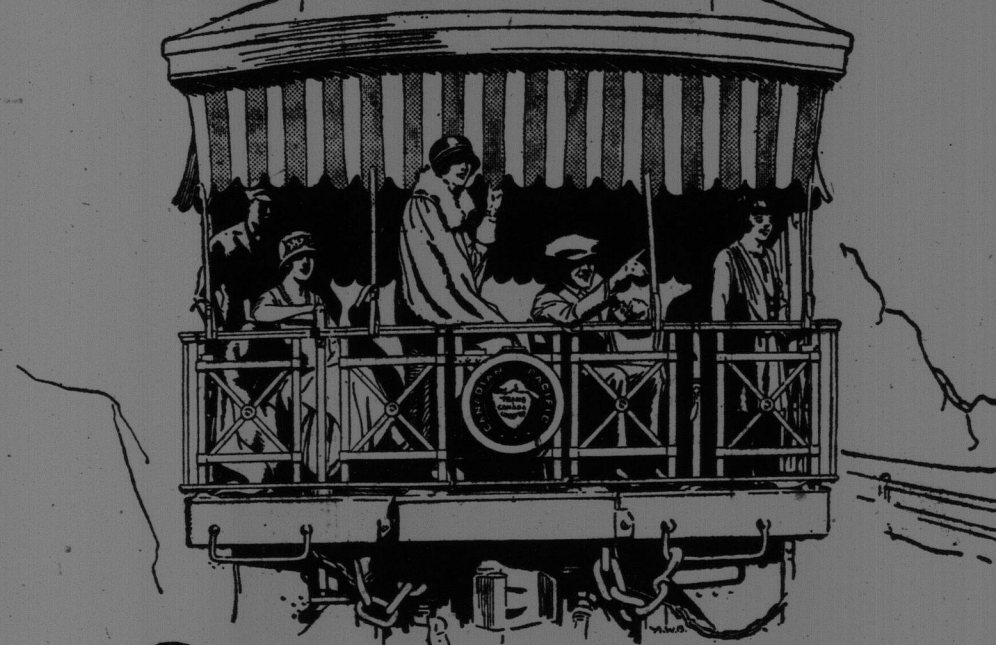
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