

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, JULY 13, 1920

### THE POWER COMPANY AND ITS EMPLOYEES.

It is satisfactory to learn that the difficulty which had arisen between the N. B. Power Company and its employees has been settled by the arrival of an agreement between the parties. The Company is to be allowed to complete some of the one-man cars they propose to use for street traffic, and these are to be tested, and if considered suitable by the City Commissioners and the citizens generally, a further agreement is to be made between the parties as to the terms upon which the men shall operate them.

The Company's idea seems to be that as a one-man car can be operated at less expense than one needing two men, other conditions being equal, there is no reason why the saving should not be made. If there can be in consequence any reduction made in the cost of fares to passengers, the citizens will no doubt take this view also. The conductor of the car is largely occupied at present in giving change, or in actually taking the fares, notwithstanding that passengers are supposed to pay the fare into the box. The pay-as-you-ride car causes delay in boarding it, and the pay-as-you-leave car caused similar delay in getting out. The solution would seem to be to adopt a pay-if-you-leave-like system and then there would be no need of a second man on the car at all.

But the most serious feature of the whole matter remains as before. That is the utter impotence of the public in a situation such as might have arisen when, owing to a dispute between employers and employees, the entire community would be helpless from lack of power, light and heat. No man should be expected to labor under unjust or unfair conditions, but it is certainly most unfair and unreasonable that the whole community should have to suffer because of some alleged grievance on the part of masters or men. A good many strictures were recently passed upon the action of the Kings County milk producers because they refused to get up an hour earlier in the morning to catch the train. Criticism of this sort would be much more appropriate to any strike by the Power Company employees until their complaints had been arbitrated upon by an independent authority.

### MR. ROWELL'S RETIREMENT.

The Ottawa Citizen thinks that "nothing in Mr. Rowell's career became him like the leaving of it." This is really very smart of the Citizen. Mr. Rowell's retirement is of course to be regretted, and there are those who think it was scarcely called for under the circumstances. The late President of the Privy Council is, however, a man of the strictest punctiliousness, and he felt that as the duty for which he had been elected by his constituents had been performed, he was not justified in remaining in the Government.

The position he held was anything but a bed of roses, and his tenure of office was rendered all the more difficult by the criticisms of some of his former friends, who lost no opportunity of making things unpleasant for him if they could. It is safe to say, however, that he stands high in the estimation of all patriotic Canadians and those who are not swayed by partisan motives. By accepting office in the Coalition of 1917, at Ottawa, while holding the position of leader of the Liberal party in Ontario, he did a great deal to render possible that union of the best men in this country which enabled Canada to carry on her effort in the war with that splendid vigor which contributed materially to the final triumph of the Allied cause. This course of Mr. Rowell inevitably made him a special target for the malice of the more narrow-minded partisans in the party with which he had previously been so prominently identified. But his career in the Union Ministry and Dominion House emphasized his value as a public man.

Mr. Rowell's ability in the House of Commons has been beyond question, and he has been a force in the country as well. He gives up office leaving a high record behind him of efficiency, courage, courtesy, and broad-mindedness. It is to be hoped he will not long be lost to public service.

### THE REHABILITATION OF GERMANY.

The appointment of Lord D'Abernon to the position of British Ambassador to Germany is a notable event in that it marks the beginning of the rehabilitation of Germany among the powers of Europe. The appointment was made in pursuance of an agreement unanimously arrived at by the Allied Powers, at the Boulogne Conference; that the suggestion that Ambassadors should be sent to Germany without delay came from the French Government, who, by the way, have made a similar choice method.

by nominating, in M. Charles Laurant, a statesman with special financial experience; and that the other great Powers have taken, or are taking, corresponding steps for being immediately and adequately represented in Berlin. It is action that, considering the interests at stake and the important problems to be dealt with, is in clear accordance with reason and common-sense. These problems are of a kind that call for stronger and more responsible handling than that of a Charge d'Affaires, to say nothing of a Consul.

As to the qualifications of Lord D'Abernon for the difficulties duties he has assumed, as Sir Edgar Vincent, his career and character are well known, and they speak highly in his favor. The only objection that has been urged against his nomination, that he has had long and intimate acquaintance with international, and notably with Oriental finance, seems rather to mark a special commendation, for finance will form an essential side of British relations with Germany for some years to come. Lord D'Abernon has a wide range of interests and attainments; he is a man of taste and a scholar, as well as a practical affairs. He is a sportsman and a golfer, and an authority on thoroughbreds, as well as on banking. He has been able to add experience at Westminster to the knowledge he has gained and the tact he has cultivated while serving on important investigating and administrative Commissions in various parts of the Ottoman Empire during the successive developments of the Eastern question that have taken place in the last forty years. But his most noteworthy and successful performances have been, as has been indicated, in the difficult fields of Eastern finance brought under his care as Financial Adviser in Egypt and President of the Council of the Ottoman Public Debt at Constantinople. With these behind him, Lord D'Abernon cannot be said to be lacking in diplomatic experience of the most practical kind. That, like Sir Auckland Geddes, who has been sent to represent Britain at Washington, the Ambassador to Berlin has not climbed to his position by the old diplomatic stairs should not be reckoned against his chances of doing his country service abroad. Under the new conditions of a new time, new methods as well as new men may be needed.

### THE THIRD PARTY.

Discussing the prospects of The Third Party, which is not satisfied with either Governor Cox or Senator Harding as presidential nominees, and which recently met in convention in Chicago, the Bancor Commercial is of opinion that it has a considerable task before it, in amalgamating the various elements that it desires to weld into a composite whole. They have called upon the discontents, the pacifists, the single taxers, the Non-Partisan League, the National Public Ownership League, the World's War Veterans and the American Labor Party, among others, to join drives. It may be accomplished and it may not. So many diverse interests are represented, so many factions that have but one single end in view, that it would seem an impossible task to align them in common. The third party lacks a real leader, one whose nomination could create any enthusiasm. The nominees, it is believed, will be La Follette, whose appeal for votes would make little headway aside from a few sections. It is unlikely that either Democratic or Republican leaders are worrying much about the third party.

Following the example of British Columbia, Manitoba now has a lady member of the Legislature. The present election law of New Brunswick, while it permits women to vote, does not allow them to become members of the House. Saturday's proceedings have probably created in the minds of the women voters an exaggerated sense of their political importance, and an early demand for a change in the law may not unreasonably be anticipated.

Mail and Empire: We have been asked how the name of the new Prime Minister of Canada is pronounced. Of the seven letters in the word Meighen only the first two and the last two count in the pronunciation of it. No attention is to be paid to the "igh" part of the name. It is sounded as if spent Me-en, with the stress on the first syllable.

Several members of a hair tonic concern in Michigan have been sent to jail. The tonic may not have produced all results promised, but one man at least, the jailer, has seen them coming in.

De Valera has been made professor of mathematics at Maynooth College, Ireland, by Archbishop Mannix. He will, we presume, conduct his classes by the correspondence method.

### WHAT OTHERS SAY

#### "The Dominion."

(Hamilton Herald.)  
 Rev. Dr. Douglas Wesley Church on Sunday credited Sir Leonard Tilley with having suggested the name Dominion for Canada after he had read the 72nd Psalm, in which are these words: "Thou shalt have dominion from sea to sea." It is an interesting statement and one would like to accept it as well founded. But it should be considered that Virginia was called "the Old Dominion" long before Canada was named.

#### A Present-Day Hero.

(Toronto Globe.)  
 The world owes a supreme benefactor in the death of Major-General Gorgas, former surgeon-general of the United States army. He drove the miasma from Havana and made the Panama Canal Zone safe for human beings. With the courage of the noblest traditions of his calling he led the warfare on typhus in Serbia, taking his life in his hands. Had he lived he would probably have conferred similar blessings on British West India. The Order of the British Empire had already recognized his achievements by making him a Knight of the Order of the British Empire, an almost unique honor for one not a British subject.

General Gorgas was a hero of a modern type. His conquests were not made on the field of battle; his battles were fought to save human life, not to destroy it. The warrior of this kind will have a wider sphere of service in the future than the soldier or the sailor.

#### A Comfortable Bet.

(Indianapolis News.)  
 The rear platform of the car was crowded with poor business men in starched collars and rich laborers in overalls. There would be nothing unusual in this if one of the overalls party had not given the crowd a lesson in thrift.

"See, I've got a dime," he told the conductor.

The conductor nodded.

"I'll pitch it. Heads you get the dime, or tails I ride for nothing."

The conductor nodded again and the coin landed on the air.

"Tails," announced the overalls man triumphantly, and he took his place with the rest of the crowd.

#### Lawn Tennis.

(London Westminster Gazette.)  
 It speaks much for the new popularity of lawn tennis that in Ascot Week the London championships should be drawing such crowds as have never before been seen at Queen's Club for these events. Lawn tennis has come to its own, not only as a pastime but as a spectacle. It draws its hundreds where before it attracted its tens. Moreover, it may be said of lawn tennis, as it is now played, that it has its real thrills, and those thrills of play which the spectator can appreciate because of his close proximity to the court. We may welcome the popular favor which has come to the game, for lawn tennis is essentially a sport for the crowded towns. It may be played with more delight in the country, but none of the athletic games requires so little space or so little time in its pursuit. Wherever there is a small area of open ground a lawn tennis court may be constructed. As our cities grow the town populations will look more and more to tennis to provide them with the exercise and the amusement that town life makes imperative.

### THE LAUGH LINE

#### Twisted.

"Nihilism"—What do you think of Jones?"

"Thompson"—Jones! He is one of those people who put you on the back before your face and hit you in the eye behind your back.

#### A Vacation for All.

"We've decided to give our minister a three-months' vacation."

"Rather a long time, isn't it?"

"Yes, but he's overworked, and anyhow the congregation needs a rest, too."

#### Not His To Give.

Old Lady (to policeman at the corner)—"I want the Bank of England."

Policeman—"I'm afraid I can't let you have it, mum."

#### Very Slight Mistake.

Two Japs at the opening baseball game stood uncovered during the playing of "How Dry I Am," thinking it was the American National Anthem.

—From the Portland (Ore.) Oregonian.

#### Safety First.

Mrs. Figgins (to newspaper)—"Do you know, Henry, that every time you draw your breath some one dies?"

Mrs. Figgins—"Well, I'm sorry; but I can't help it. If I quit drawing my breath I'd die too."—The Classmate.

#### Law of Supply and Demand.

The Customer—"When will you be able to supply those goods I ordered, grocer?"

The Grocer—"We expect to have a plentiful supply, ma'am, when the Prices Commission has given its consent to raise the prices."—The Sydney Bulletin.

#### Defined.

A teacher was reading to her class when she came across the word "unaware." She asked if any one knew the meaning.

One little girl timidly raised her hand and gave the following definition: "Unaware is what you put on first and take off last."—New York Christian Work.

#### "Has" Or "Had."

Millionaire—"Tell me, child—that young man of yours, has he any money?"

Innocence—"Money, father? Why, he has just given me a cluster diamond ring, studded with pearls."

Millionaire—"Yes, I know. Has he any money left?"—London Weekly Telegraph.

James Shields of Chatham is registered at the Victoria.

## Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

Ma was fixing her hair in her room yesterday afternoon and the door bell rang and I answered it and it was Mrs. Hews to see me, which I went up again and told her and Ma said, Gray-shies, I didn't expect her so early, and Mrs. Hews is so fussy, too, she hates to be kept waiting a half a minute, my goodness. Benny, run down in the parlor and entertain her till I get down.

Yes, ma'am, I said. And I went down in the parlor and Mrs. Hews was sitting there fanning herself with a private fan she brought with her, being a big fat lady with more than one chin and gold glasses on her nose but not around her ears, and I sat down and started to wonder how to entertain her, and she said, My goodness it's hot, dear me, it's hot.

Not saying it as if she expected any answer, and I kept on wondering how to entertain her, and after a while I said, Do you like riddles, Mrs. Hews?

Riddles? Riddles? Such a question, said Mrs. Hews, and I said, Did you ever hear the one about how to make a Maltese cross?

My goodness Gray-shies but it's hot, said Mrs. Hews, and I said, Step on its tail.

Wait? Whose tail? said Mrs. Hews, and I said, That's the answer to the riddle, step on its tail, and Mrs. Hews said, O, I wasn't paying any attention to you. Me thinking, Gosh, I guess she don't like riddles much, maybe she likes music better.

And I took my mouth out of my pocket and started to play on it, not playing any special tune on account of not knowing any, and after a while Mrs. Hews said, For land sake, boy, are you trying to drive me crazy?

No, ma'am, I'm entertaining you, I said, and Mrs. Hews said, Nothing was over farther from the truth, if you want to entertain me the best thing you can do is to get away from me as far as possible, several blocks wouldn't be too far.

Gosh, jimmies crickets, I thought. And I put my mouth or-gan back in my pocket and went out on account of knowing how to take a hint. Proving even if I didn't entertain her, I attracted her attention anyway.

No, ma'am, I'm entertaining you, I said, and Mrs. Hews said, Nothing was over farther from the truth, if you want to entertain me the best thing you can do is to get away from me as far as possible, several blocks wouldn't be too far.

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