

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B. SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1921.

## THE HARBOR PLEBISCITE

St. John is the only city on the North American continent which owns its own harbor. It is one of the very few cities on this continent in which the harbor is an actual source of revenue. By vote of the City Council a plebiscite is to be taken on August 1st, on the question whether this harbor shall or shall not be put into commission under the terms of the Harbortown Act. If the people of St. John have entirely lost their sense they will favor the commission scheme. If they are still equipped with powers of reasoning they will defend that proposal overwhelmingly. The action of the City Council at this particular juncture is hard to understand, in view of the fact that the majority of our Commissioners have frequently expressed themselves as being unalterably opposed to the proposition embodied in the Act.

There is no sense whatever in beating about the bush in this matter. The original proposal, as popularly understood, although not officially announced, suggested the idea that Mr. R. W. Wigmore would, in the event of the transfer, be chairman of the Board of Harbor Commissioners, that Mr. E. C. Elkin would be one of the members, and Mr. A. W. Adams the third member. Mr. Adams is dead. Mr. Elkin is an invalid, and Mr. Wigmore is a member of the Federal Cabinet, for the time being. Thus the entire personnel of the original idea has passed out of the running. Now the proposal is that under an unfair act a plebiscite shall be taken for the sole purpose of being defeated, and that this having been done, the City shall of its own accord place the harbor under a civil commission, securing for that body from the Provincial Legislature the necessary powers regarding borrowing, construction, etc., and it is commonly reported also that this commission is to be presided over by one of the present members of the City Council. We want no bargain counter propositions from Hon. C. C. Bannister or any of his colleagues. We are getting along very nicely as things are, and if in years to come, St. John needs more adequate facilities for the handling of traffic than at present exist, means will be found to provide them. The President of the Canadian National Railways does not desire commission control in St. John, but has intimated that his road will be prepared to furnish its own equipment when the time comes. The President of the C. N. R. is confident that when traffic through this port demands greater accommodation than is available today, that accommodation will be provided without recourse to Harbor Commission.

Just at the moment there do not seem to be any persons in particular for whom jobs must be provided, so that the plebiscite proposed for August 1st will be quite as futile as it is unnecessary.

## THE WESTERN LANDS

That the people of Manitoba and the other new Western Provinces should desire to obtain sole control of the natural resources within their own boundaries is perhaps only natural, but the arguments on the subject put forth by the delegation which waited on the Dominion Government a few days ago showed very clearly that the members of the delegation could only appreciate their own point of view. Their great grievance seems to be that in view of the fact that Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and the Maritime Provinces each control their own natural resources to withhold the same rights from Manitoba and the other two provinces, is to put them in a very subordinate position as Canadian provinces. As the Winnipeg Tribune puts it:—"Manitoba is simply 'asking for full fair membership in the Canadian family. This province has long ago passed the stage where it is necessary to regard her as a 'ward of the nation, to have her 'resources administered by the other 'provinces, while they tolerate no 'outside meddling in the administration of their own."

Manitoba asks for the "return" of its natural resources. Inasmuch as that province never owned the natural resources within its borders, they cannot possibly be "returned." Ontario, Quebec and the other provinces owned their natural resources when they were independent Crown colonies, before even the Dominion of Canada was ever thought of. They are in an entirely different position from Manitoba, which was created a province under special conditions afterwards. Premier Meighen told the Manitoba delegation that the justice of their claim was conceded, but that the matter of allowing it was simply a question of terms. He apparently realized what the delegation did not,

that the province of Manitoba was carved out of lands in which the four original provinces had a proprietary right, in view of the fact that these provinces on Confederation became entitled as the Dominion of Canada to all the ungranted lands between the Atlantic and the Pacific. The income and profits arising from these ungranted lands went to swell the Dominion revenues, and the concession of them to a new province would mean a much loss to that revenue, which has to be made up by increased taxation, in which the four original provinces have to share.

The Maritime provinces feel—and rightly feel—that if lands and natural resources in which they have a proprietary interest, are to be alienated from them, they should be allotted some monetary compensation in exchange. This is only fair; and if Manitoba and the other two Western provinces will only just realize this, and consent to such compensation being given, any opposition on the part of the Maritime provinces to the handing over to the former of their lands and resources within their own boundaries will be withdrawn.

## BRITAIN'S COAL STRIKE.

International affairs have obscured the important fact that the great British coal strike, now in its seventh week, has virtually paralyzed industry and that unless some compromise is reached within a short while conditions in Britain will reach a crisis. Until the present time reserve coal stocks have enabled consumers and industries to get along in a fashion, but the stocks are now exhausted and it is not possible to induce any British transport or other workers to handle imported coal. It is no longer a question of a sympathetic strike; the imported coal is simply "black leg" coal and no union workers will touch it.

Some approach to a settlement has been made within the past week, however. The miners demand a national wages board and a levy on every ton of coal to produce a pool from which a flat rate allowance should be made to all miners. This could raise the wages of the workers in the poorer coal districts and equalize conditions in this respect in the whole industry, which would fluctuate only with the profits of the industry. The owners offer rates of wages varying from district to district and calculated on the profits of each district. They have widened the area and decreased the number of proposed districts from twenty-one to five, and are prepared to defer their share of profits until conditions in the industry improve. The government has offered to advance 50 million dollars in the next four months to soften the fall in wages, provided a permanent settlement is reached. On the other hand the government joins with the owners in opposing the miners' suggestion of a national wages board, and such an arrangement is regarded as a nationalization, and would remove the incentive to individual efficiency in the mines. Whether in fact it would do so seems to depend on details and figures; if the levy per ton is charged as a cost and minimum wages reduced to enable this charge to be met, it would not have the effect alleged, but the government refuses steadfastly to discuss this proposal, and therefore no figures have been put forward. In the meantime conditions are growing worse and should they be permitted to continue much longer Britain will have a very hard time recovering her lost ground. The strike has crippled industry as severely in many instances as did the war and it will be no easy task to return to even the conditions that existed after the cessation of hostilities. The miners whose defeat was predicted within a short time, following the refusal of the other members of the Triple Alliance to come to their aid, have shown a surprising amount of tenacity and it is now conceded that they will secure important concessions even if they do not attain all they demand.

Golf always has its surprises as followers of the game are well aware, and this has been again demonstrated in the great matches in England where the American entries after making a remarkably fine showing in the early stages of the tournament, have all but been eliminated and it is possible that Wright no longer survives. The Bangor Commercial contends that the British style of playing 18 holes rather than 36, as is the custom in America, gives inferior players a better chance to defeat their superiors, as in the longer match the latter have more time to reach their form and demonstrate their superiority. Well, if our contemporary has to find some excuse for its countrymen getting kicked over there, we imagine the one they offer will serve as well as any other.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

Better Not To Try To Dodge Effort.  
 There is this difference between taxes and taxes. You can sometimes dodge the latter if you are quick on your feet—Detroit Free Press.

Wandering.  
 Daily recitals of Stan Peto outcries should easily classify them as among the most despicable in history. Would their civil jurisdiction, if they possessed it, be marked by any more toleration?—Hamilton Spectator.

Why Miners Remain Idle.  
 Approximately 100,000 members of the United Mine Workers of America have not done a day's work since January 1st, according to a statement made at a recent meeting of the executive board of the union. At the same time the price of coal rose, and at or near top figures. Obviously, if the miners would accept a lower wage scale, if the operators would accept lower prices, the result would be profitable for both.

Periods of shrinking costs always exert a deadening influence upon industry, lowering production causing unemployment and creating general distress. But when such a movement has been gotten under way it is futile for any industry, no matter how powerful, to attempt to stand in its way. President Lewis, of the mine workers, complains that coal production is averaging only a little more than 50 per cent. of normal. And, he adds, the situation will be no better until both industries and individuals begin buying again. But industries and individuals cannot buy at present prices. The miners and operators should see that lower costs alone will stimulate demand. When coal comes down in consequence of price cutting, it will not before, will there be an end to idleness at the mines?—Belleville Intelligencer.

## A BIT OF VERSE

WITNESSES.  
 The royal robes o'erspread  
 The cushions warm and soft as down.

The velvet grasses where was stubble  
 The chrysalis becomes a butterfly.

Unfolding leaf and bud and blossom  
 Write perfumed notes and send them everywhere.

Inviting to the Autumn's golden spread  
 Of fruits abundant and the choicest bread.

Lo! mead and wilderness and waters rise  
 With gladness of a resurrection life.

Shall soul of mortal breath one  
 And doubting, life beyond what we call death?

## THE LAUGH LINE

Money talks, but poverty goes with out saying.

In polite society a bud is a girl, who has not yet blossomed into a wall flower.

It frequently happens that man marries a woman older than he is, but the children wonder and he doesn't stay that way.

In These Times.  
 The school children may not know much about the Deaconess, but not many of their elders could correct them.—Philadelphia Record.

It Rather Ruffled Him.  
 "What's the big row about at Flub-dub's flat?" "His wife made the rain he brought home into a pie!"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Different Diagnoses.  
 A London physician says he is sure that Lenin and Trotsky are suffering from decayed teeth, and therefore their ailment is decayed brains.—Albany Journal.

Not Far Distant.  
 "The time will come," thundered the lecturer on women's rights, "when women will get men's wages." "Yes," said a weak little man in the back seat, "next Saturday, too!"—Edinburgh Scotsman.

Good Bargain.  
 Betty—"You mean thing! You said you wouldn't give away that secret I told you."  
 Bertha—"I didn't; I exchanged it for another secret and a chocolate sundae!"—Boston Transcript.

A Hard Saying.  
 Only twelve per cent. of the gentlemen who pose as millionaires in the ledgers of hotels have any money at all. Those who wear spats never have any.—New York Mail.

Breaking It Gently.  
 "If you please, mum, I've let the baby's shawl drop out of the window." "How careless of you! Now baby will catch cold." "Oh, no, mum—he's still in the shawl!"—Le Rire.

Not Ethical Matter With Him.  
 "Grandma, can you help me with this problem?" "I could, dear, but I don't think it would be right." "No, I don't suppose it would, but have a shot at it and see!"—London Mail.

Who'd Blame Her?  
 "So Mand broke her engagement with Jack because the doctor said he had a tobacco heart?" "Yes, and I don't blame her. Who wants a husband that's damaged by smoke?"—Boston Transcript.

And Tommy Knew.  
 We can't be too exact. Take Tommy Tim.  
 "Who suffered from acute appendicitis. You seem to be in pain," the doctor asked.  
 "Yes, sir. The pain's in me," the kid replied.

## Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

Today in school I was eating gum drops out of a bag, and I had ate 4 without Miss Kitty seeing me and it was getting kind of monotonous eating just one at a time, me thinking, I wonder if I could eat 3 at once without her seeing me.

Which I tried it to see, putting 3 gum drops in my mouth all together, making a pretty big size of a bump on the outside of my nose on account of being extra big gum drops, me thinking, Gosh, if she sees this bump she'll suspect me away.

Which just then what did she do but see it, me quick thinking, G, I'll hurry up and take the hole bag up to her and give her the rest of them for a present and she'll think that's what I brought them for and she'll think she made a mistake about seeing me eating.

And I quick got up and took the bag up to Miss Kitty's desk with the 3 gum drops still in my mouth feeling bigger instead of smaller, and I put the bag on Miss Kitty's desk saying, Here's a present I brought you.

Being a fierce hard thing to say on account of my teeth sticking to the 3 gum drops, and Miss Kitty looked at me fears as anything, saying, Wait that yours saying?

Which I tried to say it again wishing I was eating 3 easy things like 3 chocolates instead of 3 gum drops, and Miss Kitty said, Have you got the mumps?

No mam, I sed wishing I had, and she sed, No, you've got a mouth full of candy, haven't you?

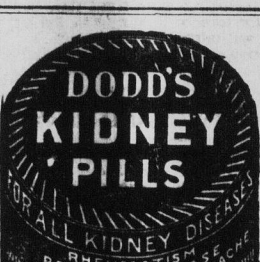
Me just looking at her grry without saying anything, and she took the bag and threw it in her waist paper basket saying, Bribery is one of the worse forms of sins, you will please remain an hour after school is dismissed.

## CHINESE ARRESTED.

Detroit, May 27.—Discovered in the M. C. R. yards last night, Jasper Miracle, of Sandvich, and Lee King Yuen, a Chinese, were arrested by federal officers after several shots had been fired. No one was struck by the bullets.

Miracle was arraigned before Commissioner Hurd today and held in \$2,500 bail on a charge of smuggling a Chinese into the United States. Federal officers believe Miracle brought Yuen from Windsor by riding the bumpers of an M. C. R. train through the tunnel.

Three varieties of dogs never bark: the Australian dog, the Egyptian shepherd dog and the "lion-headed" dog of Tibet.



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TO BIG FOOT where Red become RED For

## Lady Tilley's Funeral Largely Attended

Church Filled Friends to Pay Last of Respect.

St. John (Stone) church.

do capacity yesterday afternoon people who waited in that way a last tribute of respect to

filled a large place in the community, and one whose always open to the cry of

ing and medly, where the p over the remains of L

Thina was held. A private was held for the family at home, 223 Germain street, a

the mortgag proceeded to th

The casket was borne s

reverently up the aisle by S

Hazen, H. A. Powell, K.C.,

Ray MacLaren, R. T. Haye

C. B. Allen and R. W. D

the casket rested a large r

genaniums, a tribute from

Cross Society, and there w

beautiful basket of pink m

the family and immediate

and on the left were the p

the executive of the Prov

Cross Society, the president

born of the local Red Cro

and a representative num

Local Council of Women

gentlemen mourners were:

Tilley, Master Samuel Le

ley, Lee Street, of Dorches

a grandson; J. Royden Th

James Manning and F. E.

A few chest was borne s

paid preceded at the organ

His Lordship the Bishop

John conducted the service

by Rev. Canon G. A. R

opening hymn was "Unto

Around Do I Lift Up Mine

was followed by the read

24th Psalm. The hymn "O

surround Meem" was an

followed by the Nunc Dimi

Bishop Richardson made

reference to Lady Tilley

character and the words

her many efforts on behal

ing humanity. The ca

death had brought to a c

long be remembered by

widow of one who accep

much for his country. A

of the service the body

out of the church and tak

hill and there interred b

of Sir Samuel Leonard T

Telegrams and cables we

from all parts of Canada

by members of the berea

Among those who recieve

tuesday morning from His

the Duke of Devonshire, g

equal conveying his sincer

ed did also Lee Street, a

Dorchester, Mass. Mayo

and the city commission

in a body.

Tea and coffee served

Park Inn for picnickers.

Conference Upon

The Jud

Ottawa, May 27.—Ther

conference held between

and the House of Comm

amendments to the S

Senate has lasted upon

ments, the chief of whi

judges from acting up

The motion for the con

made in the House of C

afternoon by the Ministe