







**=The Echo=**PUBLISHED BY  
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**MR. BOUDREAU'S PLATFORM.**

Elsewhere we print the platform on which Mr. Boudreau, labor candidate for Montreal Centre, will stand or fall. It is a clear and straightforward exposition of the ground he takes between parties, and has an honest ring about it that must carry conviction to the mind of every unprejudiced elector. Mr. Boudreau is right when he states that no apology is needed for his candidature in Montreal Centre. He holds that since the population of that division is largely composed of workingmen that it is but reasonable that it should be represented by a workingman. It is a mistake to suppose that any man by merely mingling with workingmen can learn to understand their wants and aspirations, their hopes and fears, the disadvantages of their position and the wrongs, glaring enough though they be, under which they labor. To understand all this one must not only associate with them, but must actually be one of them. Considered from this standpoint, his candidature is eminently proper and no more than just to the class whom he seeks to represent, and who are in an overwhelming majority in this division. There is, however, a far graver reason, which not only renders an apology for his being in the field superfluous, but which makes his candidature desirable and positively necessary. To those of our readers who have watched the developments in connection with the several boodle inquiries at both Ottawa and Quebec, the reason will at once become apparent. Cloak it as we may, we cannot deny that our public life is rotten; that the corruption in both parties has been so rampant that the names of conservative and liberal has become to be viewed with suspicion by all honest and independent men. The reason for the existing state of affairs in public life is due to the fact that we have allowed ourselves in the past to be led away by party feeling, sacrificing our country's good to a fictitious honor in voting men into power totally unfit for the positions they occupy, and whose only qualification was their subservience to the party to which they belonged. There is reason to believe, however, that the great mass of the people are beginning correctly to understand the baneful influence of unbending allegiance to party rule. This is evidenced by the desire of former hide-bound party men now anxious to pose as independent candidates, hoping by this transparent trick to delude the electors and get pitchforked back into office, after which their independence would vanish. Without the candidature of Mr. Boudreau the voters of Montreal Centre would not have the opportunity of voting for an independent, because both of his opponents are thorough-going party men, and to vote for either one or the other would be an endorsement of all that has passed, and an inducement, to whichever party succeeds in gaining a majority, to repeat the blunders that have disfigured our former legislation and the crimes that have made Canada a byword among the nations. With him in the field, however, honest men of both parties will have an opportunity to pronounce for honest government, and emphatically protest against undeviating party following. It is because honest men cannot consistently support the nominee of the one political party, and because a large majority, it is hoped, will not surrender their intelligence by voting for a nonentity who cannot voice their opinions in the councils of the province, that the can-

didature of such a man as Mr. Boudreau has become a necessity to prevent the constituency of Montreal Centre being virtually disfranchised. With his independence inviolable from both parties he comes before the electorate with a platform which at once commends itself to all honest and progressive men as both practical and necessary, and in their hands we leave him. We believe that the intelligence and inherent honesty of the voters of the Centre Division will prompt them to place him at the head of the poll.

**ST. MARY'S DIVISION.**

To all appearance the contest in this division has simmered down to a straight fight between ex-Ald. Martineau an out-and-out Conservative and Mr. Joseph Beland, the independent Labor candidate, and the chances are greatly in favor of the latter, Mr. Beland—or as he is better known as "Honest Joe"—has no reason to be ashamed of his record. During the time he sat in the House every question affecting workingmen received his earnest and careful attention, and no opportunity to further the interests of the majority of his constituents was lost by him, therefore there should be no hesitation on the part of workingmen as to whom they should support. While Mr. Beland announces himself as an Independent Liberal he will readily give his support to the government who seeks first the welfare of the people and, secondly, who will administer the affairs of the province in an honest and intelligent manner. "Joe" has no sympathy whatever with boodlers, and everything that is not straightforward and above board will find in him a sturdy opponent. With one or two more of his calibre in the legislature it will be all the more easy to secure the legislation demanded in the labor platform.

**ELECTION NOTES.**

We have it, on the authority of a reporter of a morning contemporary, that "the prosperous merchant sat side by side with the hard-working mechanic" at the Conservative rally in the Windsor the other evening. This is evidently intended to flatter the hard-working mechanic as well as to describe the heterogeneous character of the assembly, but we may be allowed to say in passing that, in any other gathering—a representation of comic opera, for instance—the prosperous merchant would have been found in the front row and his hard-working brother away behind or packed among sawdust up in the gallery. It is only when the prosperous merchant has any favors to ask of the mechanic that he is found hob-nobbing with him, and just now the former feels it necessary to assume condescension; after his ballot has been cast the prosperous man will have no further use for the mechanic until the next election.

Apropos of the above meeting, which was enthusiastic enough to satisfy its most sanguine promoters, there are some points to be noted. Every one who went there with the expectation of hearing the late government denounced must have come away fully satisfied. The different speakers handled Mr. Mercier and his colleagues without gloves, probably believing they had good ground to work upon, and the faithful cheered them to the echo. Mr. Hall's exposition of the financial situation was a masterly one and augurs well for his success in the important position he now occupies in the Cabinet. His explanations were lucid, his facts and figures effective and telling, and he certainly showed up the late Government to disadvantage. Mr. Morris made a vigorous speech, and as is the custom with him, he called things by their proper names. He is a hard hitter; on all occasions he voices his true and honest convictions, and the more men we have of

his stamp in the Legislature the better, as he announces his complete independence of party. In sad contrast to Messrs. Hall and Morris was the showing made by the other Conservative candidate, Ald. P. Kennedy. Such a lamentable failure on a public platform has seldom been witnessed, and though the audience endeavored good-naturedly to help Pat along with a few cheers they had no effect, and those of his hearers who were not convulsed with laughter looked very much chagrined at the exhibition. Unfavorable comment was heard on every side, and many people unacquainted with Ald. Kennedy's failings and peculiarities were surprised at the selection made by the Conservative committee.

Ald. Brunet again seeks re-election in St. James' Division, and his friends are very sanguine as to his success. In his public capacity the worthy alderman has invariably been the true friend of the workingman, and there is no doubt he will on this occasion receive a generous support from them in return.

The long-talked-of opposition to Ald. Rainville has culminated in the appearance of Mr. Damase Parizeau, an extensive lumber dealer and President of the Chambre de Commerce. Mr. Parizeau ranks as an old-time Liberal, but will give the Government of Mr. De Boucherville a fair and impartial support. Mr. Parizeau is a large employer of labor, and has the reputation of dealing fairly with those under him, so that to-day he holds the respect and esteem, not alone of those in his employ, but of a large section of the workingmen of the division.

Mr. Boudreau has opened another Committee room at 543B Wellington street, Point St. Charles, where his friends and supporters are requested to meet this evening. A public meeting in his interest will be held in Chabouillez square to-night, which will be addressed by several well known speakers, and in the course of next week meetings will also be held in the Point.

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All Sizes  
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generally carries everything before it and the needle that moves "not wisely but too well." Well, these are things to think over at all events! If you decide on taking Time by the forelock, you will find suitable materials and suitable prices at

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All Colors in stock.  
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All the latest shades to select from.  
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No two alike, all the latest novelties just received.  
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A complete assortment.  
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A full range of prices in stock.  
**NEW BLACK SATIN SOLEIL CLOTHS,**  
In plain and fancy, now in stock.  
**NEW BLACK BEDFORD CORDS,**  
In all widths of cord,  
New stock of **PRIESTLEY'S BLACK  
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**ADVANTAGES OF UNIONISM.**

The Position of Unionists Clearly Defined by Prof. Ashley.

A fortnight ago Mr. P. J. McGuire, general secretary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, delivered a lecture in Toronto on "The Burdens of Labor and How to Relieve Them," before a large audience. Prof. Ashley, M.A., of Toronto University, occupied the chair and, in introducing the lecturer, made the following remarks:

Ladies and Gentlemen,—When the Toronto branch of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners asked me to preside on this occasion, although I was gratified by the kindly feeling which the request displayed, I ventured to ask for a little delay before I gave my answer. I wished first to read some of the printed utterances of the speaker who was to address you. Your committee put into my hands a copy of an address which Mr. McGuire had recently been delivering before the convention of officers of bureaus of labor. There I found such excellent common sense, such absence of mere sentiment and tall talk, such courage to express the unpopular truth even to the workmen themselves, if necessary, that I felt I could hesitate no longer, and at once consented to be with you to-night. You have come together to hear Mr. McGuire and I will not take up your time. But before I call upon him to address you it may not be out of place for me to say somewhat of my own position in this matter. I should not of course be here this evening if I were not of opinion that the Trades Union movement is one which, in spite of some defects and drawbacks, is greatly for the benefit of the working classes. When I say that combination among workmen is absolutely necessary in the great majority of cases if they are to obtain as good terms as the condition of trade really warrants, when I say this I am not expressing the opinion of a youthful sentimentalist, but that of almost every economist of any reputation. John Stuart Mill himself, a man who did not take an over sanguine view of what trade unionism could effect, long ago pointed out that combination alone could secure for the workmen that genuine freedom of contract which, isolated and disunited, they could enjoy only in name. Moreover, a man must indeed be blind to experience who does not recognize that in the country where unionism has been most successful, in England, it has distinctly contributed to the improvement in the material and moral well being of the working classes. But I am ready to confess that if I thought trades unions benefited only the working classes I should have felt some difficulty in being present this evening. Even the thought that a greater diffusion of comfort among the masses of the people would lead to a healthier and happier state of society might still have left me hesitating; for it might be urged with some show of propriety that as trade unionism is primarily an organization for the purposes of industrial warfare, it was inconsistent with the duty of one who ought to occupy a position of impartiality and neutrality to throw himself on one side or other in the struggle. But I am convinced that the formation of strong labor unions is not only for the good of the working classes, but also demonstrably for the advantage of society as a whole; and that for three reasons. The first is, that the better organized the laborers are the less frequent do strikes become. There is an idea abroad among the general public that the officers of trades unions, and especially the delegates from central unionist executives at a distance, spend their time in fomenting strikes, and that if there were no such agitators strikes would disappear. But it would be clear on a lit-

tle consideration that it is not for the interest of unionist officials that there should be an unsuccessful strike. And when the local union is part of a great international brotherhood, as in the case of the carpenters and joiners, it is the universal rule that no union is to go on strike and become a burden on the funds of the society without the previous consent of the central executive. The larger and more consolidated the organization is the more likely is it that the central executive will be men of ability and experience, men who have a pretty shrewd notion of the state of the labor market and the condition of business. In the earlier stages of unionism there have no doubt been only too many cases in which strikes have been precipitated by foolish and even self-seeking agitators. Instances of this kind largely account for the feeling of suspicion towards trades unions which took so long to die out in England, and still survives in America. But it is the universal experience that when once a firm organization, with a properly chosen executive exercising adequate authority, and administering considerable funds, has come into existence—such an organization as your brotherhood—the influence of always being in favor of strikes, is in most cases against them. "During the six years ending 1882, years of unexampled bad trade, and reduction of wages, and industrial disturbance, there were a great many strikes, and during that period seven great trade societies in Great Britain expended in settlement of disputes £162,000 only, out of a capital of nearly £2,000,000. In 1882"—the last year for which I have the figures easily accessible—"these societies with an aggregate income of £330,000 and a cash balance of £360,009, expended altogether in matters of dispute about £5,000, which was not two per cent. on the whole of their income, and not one per cent. on their total available resources for the year." The same is true in America, and how this comes about has been admirably stated by Mr. McGuire himself. Now, of course, Mr. McGuire advocates restrictions on strikes in the interest of the workmen; he is desirous that a battle should not be fought until there is a prospect of its being successful. But whatever the object, the result is that there are fewer strikes, and even if these are more serious, that strikes should be fewer is for the advantage of trade and industry. It is infinitely better in every way that there should be a few big struggles than a never-ending series of little ones. It disturbs industry less; it creates less soreness between employers and employed, and when the contest does come it is much more likely to attract general attention and to set men of public spirit and practical ability to devise some means by which strikes can be obviated in future. And this brings me to my second point. Trades unions are the necessary basis for the most hopeful methods of maintaining industrial peace, viz., arbitration and conciliation. I have recently spoken at some length on this topic and will not return to it again, except to say this much: The time has gone by when employers could expect that the workmen would accept whatever wages were offered to them. I do not underestimate the amount of business ability which is requisite in the successful employer. Economists to-day are laying more and more emphasis on the extent to which the successful prosecution of any business undertaking depends on the possession of business skill. But though this business ability is a factor of immense importance in modern industry, human labor is still indispensable; and on the conditions under which it is employed depend the happiness of the great body of the people. And with the growth of democratic feeling and the spread of education workmen are quite sure to claim an equal voice with the employers in the settlement of

the terms upon which they shall labor, and it is time that this fact was faced. The only means of satisfying this demand which is consistent with the conditions of industry and within the sphere of practical politics is to provide for regular periodical and businesslike conferences between representatives of the two interests. But unless the men are accustomed to act together, unless their representatives on the board are their usual leaders, conciliation is sure to break down. Even on the side of the employers, there is the same need of combination, if they are numerous; or otherwise the action of the employers on the joint board will fail to carry with it the acquiescence of the whole body. So that, although combination among the masters might give them a somewhat better chance in a contest with the men, I should nevertheless welcome combination among them, wherever it was needed for the proper working of arbitration or conciliation. And, returning to trades unions, it is worth while considering, even by those who have little sympathy with unionism, whether it is not a necessary stage on the way to something better. And then there is this third reason for believing that a vigorous trades unionism is for the good not only of the working classes, but also of the whole community; it is the most efficacious antidote to revolutionary socialism. I am not an alarmist; but it is very certain that when every adult man is given an equal share in political power, and every man is able to read, there will grow up much dissatisfaction with the existing distribution of wealth. It is to this natural dissatisfaction that the revolutionary Socialists appeal. They are ready with the argument that nothing short of a violent overthrow of the present social system can be of any avail. But if it can be shown that without overthrowing the present basis of society, viz., private property, workingmen can ameliorate their own condition by their own efforts, the ground is cut from beneath the Socialists' feet. Accordingly your genuine Socialist has usually been everywhere the bitterest enemy of trades unions; and in proportion as unionism has been successful have the workmen given up wild and visionary dreams of social revolution. In all seriousness, therefore, the attention of the more comfortable classes may well be called to trades unionism as being in its essence and purpose, in the truest sense of the word, conservative. If only people would give a great and dispassionate attention to the subject there would be some prospect that many prevalent misconceptions would disappear. The well-worn objection, for instance, that unions fix a hard and fast wage for good and bad workmen alike would be seen to rest on a misunderstanding. And if there are still a few unwise rules in some unions, as I must confess, I fear there are—rules, however, which do not touch the essence of the unionist principle—there is much more likelihood that the unions will remove them if they are criticised courteously, intelligently, and sympathetically. That kind of criticism, of which unions have had too much, which proceeds on the assumption of an obvious moral and mental superiority on the part of a critic, has never been of the smallest use. And now, ladies and gentlemen, I will call on Mr. McGuire to address us. I dare say we shall not all agree with everything he has to say; but it is only to the frank interchange of argument that we can look for the growth of a wise public opinion. And Mr. McGuire has played so influential a part in the labor movement on this continent his opinions will certainly be worthy of our serious consideration.

The Prince of Wales has decided to close his connection with the turf.  
John Shaw, the chief of the bucket shop dealers in England, is dead.  
John Hollingshead, the theatrical manager, has been declared bankrupt.  
Vice-Admiral C. T. Curme, commander-in-chief at Sheerness, is dead.

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**WILL SHE KISS ME AGAIN?**

She kissed me! Dear "Mate;"  
Her head on my breast  
With a feeling of shelter  
And infinite rest,  
And the holy emotions  
My tongue dared not speak,  
Flashed up in a flame  
From my heart to my cheek.

She kissed me! Dear Ida;  
And my breath, and my will  
In delicious joy  
For a moment stood still.  
Life held for poor "Clito"  
No temptations, no charms—  
No vision of happiness  
Outside of her arms.

She kissed me! My love;  
In a bliss so divine,  
I reeled like a drunken man  
Foolish with wine.  
And I thought 'twere delicious  
To die there, if death  
Would but come, while my lips  
Were yet moist with her breath,

She kissed me! My own;  
And these are the questions  
I ask day and night:  
Shall our lips taste no more  
That exquisite delight!  
Would she care if my breast  
Were her shelter as then?  
And if she were here now  
Would she kiss me again?

**When the Clock Ticks Loudest.**

After she had kissed him on her return from a visit to her relatives she asked:  
Well, John, how did you get along without me and the children?  
Not very well, he replied. The next time you go away I'll shut the house and go to a hotel.  
Oh, you don't like to be alone here? she queried.  
No, I don't, he returned. The house is overrun with rats.  
Rats! she exclaimed, why, there isn't a rat in the place.  
Oh, indeed! he said, didn't I hear 'em? Didn't I hear 'em nibbling and scratching away all night? Didn't they keep me awake half the time? I hadn't more than got to bed the first night when they started in with their scratch, scratch, scratch.  
They were mice, John, she explained. I've occasionally had a little trouble with mice.  
Well, it's very strange I've never heard them before, he said. And that clock—  
Where is it, John? she asked, looking about the room.  
It's in the front parlor, he replied. The thing nearly drove me crazy. Why, the first night when I settled down for a quiet smoke it acted like a fire alarm. There wasn't a sound in the house, but the first thing I knew the old thing was ticking with a distinctness that pretty nearly made me insane. After it had forced itself on my attention fifty or sixty times and made me so nervous that I could hear noises in all parts of the house I put it in the kitchen and shut the door.  
Did that do any good, John? she asked with a slight smile.  
A little, but not much, he returned. I could still hear it. I wonder what is the matter with it, I never heard it make so much noise before.  
Perhaps, John, she suggested quietly, it is because you were never alone in the house at night before. I've known it do the same thing when I was alone at night. It never ticks so loud as then, the mice never scratch so hard as then, there are never so many unusual noises as then.  
He looked at her pretty sharply as she busied herself putting things to rights again, and then—well, he doesn't stay out so late now. He tries to get home, as he puts it, before the clock begins to tick.

**The Tomb of Paul and Virginia.**

Many who have read that sweet and simple love story, "Paul and Virginia," do not believe that it is really founded on facts. Yet such is said to be the case. Thomas Wilkinson, an Englishman, who has resided in the Island of Madagascar for 30 years, says Paul and Virginia were characters of flesh and blood, and not mere creatures of the novelist's imagination. However, it is not denied that the facts in history were embellished artistically by the author of the story. About 500 miles east of Madagascar is situated a small island, 30 miles square, known as Mauritius. When it was first found by white men there were no traces of former possession of any people. The Dutch first settled the island, and it became a productive spot in raising sugar. Then the French took possession of it and finally the English obtained control. Now Mauritius is inhabited by the Dutch, the French, the English and a horde of Chinese laborers and black slaves of the sugar plantations. On this island is seen to-day the tomb of the unfortunate lovers Paul and Virginia. It is a well authenticated piece of history on the island that these two lovers belonged to two well-to-do French families there. Virginia, who was beautiful, and young, and artless, was sent to France to be educated. While there her hand was sought by a wealthy and titled Frenchman, but she refused his offer and remained true to the simple swain, Paul, of Mauritius. She started home on the ship St. Jehan, but the vessel was wrecked in a hurricane when in sight of Mauritius, and her lifeless body was washed ashore. Among the relics of this event there are kept several pieces of the broken timbers of St. Jehan on the island, and the marble tomb of Paul and Virginia is held in high reverence by the inhabitants as a monument to their enduring love.—Chicago Herald.

food, clothing and shelter? Should the needs of life be left as a gambling stake for the shrewd ones to capture, and hold at their own sweet will from the multitude? This is the rising question of the age; and in it we shall have the pro and con of the two great parties of the future.—The Dawn.

**The Pinkertons.**

There are in this country a uniformed and armed company of men numbering 32,000, known as the Pinkerton detectives, kept and paid for the express and determinate purpose of quelling strikes, riots, and—to protect corporations. The uniform of this bedizened army cost \$960,000, at the rate of \$30 each. Their rifles and revolvers \$960,000 more at the same ratio. The average pay per month is \$40 each, which enables this army to live fairly well on \$1,280,000 for 30 days, and \$15,460,000 will about supply them annually—\$17,000,000! Who pays out this money? That is a soft nut to crack. English and American capitalists have leagued together to oppress American workingmen, and when they resent such encroachment of capital—such tyranny—the Pinkertons are on hand to settle the discussion with bullet and bayonet. The people have permitted alien ownership of land, and the very money that supports this army of detectives is ground from the people by foreigners, and American plutocrats are so allied that the Pinkertons are applauded every time they fasten the mouths of those who are making 'bricks without straw' when they cry "It is wrong, it is wrong!"—National Economist.

Tom—Why, Charley, how beaming you look to-day! What has happened to cheer you up so? Charley—I've been courting a girl for a long time, but she would never admit that she loved me. She would only say that she respected me; but last night she confessed that she respected me no longer—that she loved me.

Oh! the snore, the beautiful snore, filling the chamber from ceiling to floor, Over the coverlet, under the sheet, from her wee dimpled chin to her pretty feet. Now rising aloft like a bee in June, now sunk to the wall of a cracked bassoon; Now, flute-like, subsiding, then rising again, is the beautiful snoring of Elizabeth Jane.

**The Longest Period a Man Has Worked Continuously.**

Hermann Boerhaave, a Dutch physician, scholar, and scientific author, who was born in 1668 and died in 1738, has left it on record that he was once so absorbed in his studies that he passed a period of six weeks continuously devoted to work. During all this time he existed without sleep. Edison is one of the most indefatigable workers the world has ever seen. He frequently works for forty-eight hours when absorbed on one of his new productions, and then will fall asleep in the workshop and sleep soundly for twelve or fourteen hours at a time. On the occasion of making the first carbon incandescent lamp, Edison and his assistant worked three days and nights continuously before it was completed and inserted in the lamp. The story is thus told by Edison:—"The carbon of the first lamp was made of a spool of Clark's thread. All night Batchelor, my assistant, worked beside me. The next day we worked all day and then all night again, and at the end of that time we had one produced carbon out of a spool of Clark's thread. Having made it, it was necessary to take it to the glassblower's house. With the utmost precaution Batchelor took up the precious carbon, and I marched after him, as if guarding a mighty treasure. To our consternation, just as we reached the glassblower's bench, the wretched carbon broke. We turned back to the main laboratory and set to work again. It was late in the afternoon before we had produced another carbon, which again was broken by a jeweller's screw-driver falling against it. But we turned back again, and before night the carbon was completed and inserted in the lamp. The lamp was exhausted of air and sealed, the current turned on, and the light that is to be the light of the world met our eyes for the first time in all its beauty." On the very night of his wedding, Edison took one of these fits of work, and, forgetting his newly-made wife and everything else but the work on which he was engaged, continued at it for over forty-eight hours.

**What is the Difference.**

A certain king by the power of the sword and the superstition of his followers, fell upon a defenceless people, and took from them their lands, cattle, and all their possessions.  
A certain fancier, by the power of his wits and the selfish ignorance of his followers, quietly when among a certain people, and by careful and shrewd management, with rents, interests and profits, kind words, long hours and short pay, soon became the owner of all their lands, houses and all their goods and means of employment, then told them it would profit him nothing to hire them longer, and turned them out to starve.  
A certain pugilist overpowered a certain traveler and took from him all his possessions, and left him a beggar among strangers.  
What is the important difference between the above three methods and their results? One operates by the sword, another by his wits, and the third by his muscle.  
Is there any difference in the result?  
Is there any difference in the morality of these three methods? Are we not morally bound to oppose all schemes by which one man can have power to take from another his

**PHUNNY ECHOES.**

Matrimony is a success so long as the husband and wife like to read their old love letters to each other.  
The happy father of twins telegraphs to his brother as follows: Immense joy; we have got twins; more later on.  
A rich man married a pretty girl, And a milliner had she. And in a year that milliner Was the richest of the three.  
Chemist—Here's the only remedy in the world for a cold. Customer—I've tried it, I don't care for it. Chemist—Then here's something just as good.  
A placard posted through a country town once announced the opening of the Theatre Royal under the management of Miss newly decorated and painted.  
What is your objection to Charles, papa? said Maud. He plays cards, said papa. But so do you. You played with him last night. I know it—but he won.  
Robert, dear, how do you suppose those dozens and dozens of empty bottles ever got into the cellar? Why, I don't know my dear. I never bought an empty bottle in my life.  
John, what's the matter with the clocks? This one just struck two, while the one up stairs struck three. They are keeping the score between them. It is just five o'clock by my watch.  
Is Miss Winterbloom in? No, sir. She told me to say that she waited for you until half past four. But I told her expressly I wouldn't be here until five. Yes, sir; so I heard her say.  
Gentleman—You don't mean to say you call this flavorless stuff oxtail soup, waiter? Waiter—Yessir. Gentleman—Then take it out and let the ox dip his tail in it two or three more times.  
Mr. Hardup—Why didn't you send that tea and sugar and things I ordered yesterday? Polite Tradesman—Well, sir, I find there is a slight honorarium due on the last three consignments.  
Jenkins, writing to thank his aunt for a large goose sent last Christmas, says: You could not have sent me a more acceptable present, or one that would have reminded me of you more pleasantly.  
Photographer—Can't you assume a more pleasant expression than that? Just think of your best girl a few minutes. Young Man (sadly)—It wouldn't do any good. She refused me about a week ago.  
Aunt Jane (pointing to a star shining through the clouds during a rainstorm)—That star you see up there, Johnny, is larger than this whole world. Little Nephew—Then why don't it keep the rain off?  
Ah! love, I would like to listen to you all night, said Quasimodo before he wed Mrs. Q. Six months afterwards he chanced to stop out fifteen minutes after the appointed hour, and then his wish was gratified.  
Friend—So you have married your housekeeper? Don't you know that she has been robbing you for years? Old Smartness—Of course I know it. That's why I married her. I am trying to get my money back.  
Jones—There has not been much suffering this winter, thanks to the mildness of the weather. Smith—Hasn't been much suffering? Great Caesar! you ought to talk to my wife. She has had only one chance this whole winter to show off her new seal-skin jacket.

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## OUR BOARDING HOUSE

Reflections on Current Events by the Boarders.

"If ever there was a time in the history of this Province in which the electors should correctly estimate the responsibilities of the franchise," said Brown, "that time is now. No feeling of obligation for favors conferred, no personal ties of friendship or association, no consideration of race or religion should in the coming struggle guide or influence the citizen in the discharge of his duty. Such considerations, bad at any time, would at this juncture be absolutely criminal. It was the race, creed and party cry of former years which gave us representatives who piled up an enormous public debt, ruined our credit abroad and left us with a depleted treasury on the verge of bankruptcy. The struggle for power between the old political parties during the last few years inaugurated an era of bribery and corruption on so large a scale that it stands without parallel in the history of the world, and the citizens of this Province must decide on the 8th of March whether this shall continue or not. Let every man impartially and honestly review the history of the past few years and he will find that the ruin and disgrace which have overtaken us are clearly traceable to the determined and avowed aim of our legislators to place the interests of party first and those of the country afterwards. It was this desire to protect the interests of party that prompted the Conservatives at Ottawa to place all manner of obstacles in the way of the boodle investigation committee so that its proceedings degenerated into a farce in which the smaller fry of criminals were punished while the big thieves were left working. It was this same desire to retain their party in power which prompted the Quebec Liberals to plunder the public treasury and actually gives them the check to boast of it. More than that. If you note the utterances of men prominent in the councils of both parties you will find that they not only condone, but actually approve of plundering the treasury as long as the plunder is spent in advancing the interests of their respective parties, the main objection on both sides being that some of this plunder has found its way into the pockets of the thieves and their accomplices."

"That's the only thing to which they do object," said Phil. "It seems quite the correct thing to the average politician to rob the people, so long as the money is spent in advancing the interests of the party; but what the voter will have to decide in the coming election is whether he considers it to be the correct thing or not. By this time he should surely understand that no matter what his occupation or calling may be, whether he be laborer, mechanic or manufacturer, he pays his proportionate share into the public treasury, and just in such proportion is he robbed when the politician plunders the public money chest. It doesn't matter a button to him whether this stolen money is pocketed by the politician or whether it is used for party purposes, he has to replenish the treasury. He is just as effectually robbed as if the politician had met him in the dark with a bludgeon and made him 'stand and deliver.'"

"That is just what I want to get at," said Brown. "We are agreed that when the public treasury is plundered we are being robbed. We are told that so long as the money stolen from us is used to advance the interests of the party to which the thieves belong the robbery is justifiable. Now, we don't at all believe that it is. We don't want to be robbed under any circumstances or pretence; no, not even if the money stolen from us were to be used in erecting reserved seats in heaven for the special benefit and use of the workingmen of Canada, much less for the advancement of a party which would enable it to rob us more effectually in the future. Since then thievery and corruption are the outcome of party rule, and the public

## St. Antoine Division.

HON.

JOHN S. HALL,

Provincial Treasurer.

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treasury is plundered for the ostensible purpose of advancing party interests, the only rational and safe remedy for the protection of the interests of the people is the election of a sufficient number of intelligent men who owe allegiance to neither party, and who can, therefore, be relied upon to use their votes and influence to overthrow any Government which, in point of honesty, does not fairly and squarely toe the mark. To replace one unscrupulous party man by another who owes allegiance to an equally unscrupulous party would be the worst kind of foolishness and productive of more harm than good. For instance, what is the difference between McShane and Kennedy? What can either of them, if elected, do to purify politics? Both of them are out-and-out party men. They have followed their respective parties through the mud and mire of former years, and they will follow them to the end of the chapter. Such men cannot be relied upon to expose or condemn any questionable or corrupt acts of their respective parties, and the man who desires to purify politics and votes for either of them simply throws his vote away. This is the point which the electors of Montreal Centre will have to consider more carefully than others, because in that division they have fortunately a man in Mr. Boudreau who is strictly independent of both parties. If the men of St. Ann's Ward desire honest government let them vote for Boudreau and thereby say so."

BILL BLADES.

## St. Mary's Division.

VOTE FOR

Frs. Martineau

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LABOR CANDIDATE,

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VOTE FOR

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