

The British Whig



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DAYLIGHT SAVING.

Why the proposal to use less artificial light should be called "daylight saving" is not at all apparent. The change in the clocks by command of any legislature or public body does not affect the daylight. It will be the same at certain seasons, whether the people recognize it by special act or not. The scheme is one of artificial light saving, the plan being to rise nearer to the rise of the sun and go to bed or rest nearer to the setting of this great luminary, and the masses can conform to the changes in the seasons so far as daylight is concerned without regard to any law.

The law, to be really effectual, to secure the largest measure of obedience and find a fair trial in the universality of it, should have been in Canada, as in Britain, passed by the national parliament. And yet there are some who see in the civic measure an opportunity to experiment to some purpose. As the Ottawa Journal remarks, common sense calls for the experiment. "It need only be," as our contemporary remarks, "an experiment. If the trial is made, it is a trial which will end with October. If we sample the thing, we sample it in four or five months, and if we do not find it a good thing we will drop it and no harm will be done. If we find it a good thing, we shall have discovered that it will be a benefit to humanity for a hundred or a thousand years. Such a gamble looks to be very one-sided. Ottawa ought not to hesitate in trying it at any rate."

The decision of the board of education, the churches, the banks, and large employers in Kingston to try the change of time voluntarily is to be commended. The civic by-law, let us add, does not make it obligatory upon any employer or obligation to act, but the desire to co-operate with the council is very general and promises to work out well.

The Rockefeller Foundation—the trust which was formed some years ago to dispense the millions of dollars which Rockefeller accumulated—has given \$1,000,000 to the fund for the relief of Poland, Serbia, Montenegro, and Albania. No money could be more gratefully spent, and the million dollars will never be misused by Rockefeller. In the territories referred to there are over 4,000,000 people in a starving condition.

J. J. HILL AT REST. Who that knew James J. Hill's early life, his power as a railway magnate, his success as a financier, can question the effect which his death must have in the business world. The rise of men like Mr. Hill from positions of comparative obscurity to positions of eminence, is referred to occasionally as an object lesson. Young men are pointed to it for the stimulation which it affords and as an example of what can be achieved when the individual uses aright the talents with which he has been endowed. The inspiration is not lost at any time or upon any one.

Yet careers like Hill's, Gould's, Harriman's, Shaughnessy's, or Hays', are uncommon, and founded upon conditions that are exceedingly rare. All these great railway men have been models of their kind, and their lives when studied suggest service and sacrifice which the ordinary individual is not prepared to make. Hill was a Canadian by birth and early training. While still a young man he became a resident of the United States because the opportunities for his advancement lay in that direction. He worked hard in any position and in any calling. He did not spare his strength, but physically

as well as mentally exerted himself to the utmost and earned all his rewards.

For half a century he has been a great force in the railway world, and to his energy and foresight and judgment are due the success of the Northern Railway and its allied roads and interests. Midas-like it seemed that anything he touched turned to gold. But that is an extravagant conclusion. What he got, in rich abundance, he worked for, and by labors that were unremitting. Nor was he as fond of money as may have been supposed by some. The Whig remembers his acquirement of vast mineral resources, and under circumstances which would have warranted him in appropriating them to his own use.

The Whig has walked over the iron ranges in the State of Minnesota and heard the story of how Hill, with a magnanimity that was astonishing, handed this wealth over to the company of which he was the president, and was content to esteem this as an exalted privilege. He wanted it to be understood that in all these great enterprises he was working for the company and not for himself. For years Hill had been gradually transferring to others the responsibilities which he carried in many business connections until lately it could be said he was little more than an adviser. After all his was a presence that carried power with it. In every direction, radiating out from a given centre, as it were, there was the influence, silent and potent, which will now be missed, for the voice, the hand, the touch of J. J. Hill once felt could not be forgotten.

Kingston promised to light the way to the camp ground and the camp ground itself with electricity. The cost is now estimated at \$21,000. It is embarrassing to the city's finance committee. Why was the service promised without distinct information as to the cost of it? Why was this matter not settled before the troops arrived?

THE MINISTRY AND WAR.

The Christian Guardian gives the names of the sons of Methodist ministers who have enlisted for active military service. The roll is a long one. Very few of the young men of the parsonage appear to hold commissions. Most of them, in taking up arms, have not hesitated to accept any assignment, no matter how humble, so long as they are able to fit themselves for the duty of the hour. This circumstance will have a telling effect in the several conferences whose annual meetings will closely follow each other during the next few weeks.

The Guardian refers to the number of pulpits that have been affected by the war. These pulpits have been vacated by ministers who have answered to the call of service, and have at once donned the khaki. Some of them have already gone to distant parts for active service, even to the trenches in France. Some of them are still in England, or in Canada, in training for the activities which will come to them later. They have not waited to see what the effect of their action will be upon the ministry. They are not, of course, indifferent with regard to results; on the contrary, they are very deeply concerned, and the Guardian champions their cause in an appropriate and heroic way.

What will the conferences do with regard to these absent ministers? That is the question of the hour. Will they listen to the petitions and appeals of the Official Quarterly Boards as they plead the cause of the church militant? In most cases the request is that the pulpits be not filled for the time being, even though the terms of the pastors have been completed, and that whatever appointments are made be of a temporary character, the parsonages, so far as possible, being left at the same time undisturbed. The war is distracting enough, and it has upset things so that the usual routine cannot be followed with any degree of satisfaction.

As the Guardian remarks, many contingencies will be encountered for which there is no legal provision because they have not and could not be anticipated. The church, in common with every other institution, must adapt itself to the necessities of the times; and the men kept at home, and occupied with its interests, must have the fullest consideration for those who have, in the most patriotic way, taken up the duty of national defence.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The date of the republican convention in Chicago draws nigh. Who will get the nomination, Root, or Hughes, or Roosevelt? With either Root or Roosevelt in the field, the German-American republicans threaten to vote for Wilson.

The Journal of Commerce thinks that half a dozen of experienced teachers should be able to draw a regulation which would enable bilingual schools to be conducted to the satisfaction of the French and English people. If the experiment be so simple and so easily accomplished why is it not made? Are the half a

dozen of experienced teachers so hard to get?

Medical inspection in Toronto will cost \$71,000 this year. Well, what of it? Thousands of children are being saved from physical defects, that, neglected, would certainly impair their usefulness in after years. The sturdiness of the race is worth a good deal.

It is proposed to raise \$2,000,000 with which to perpetuate the work and name of Booker T. Washington, one of America's greatest men. As the founder of Tuskegee Institute, the colored leader did for his race a work that ranks with the highest and best in this country and age.

A company has been formed at Ottawa, of conservative politicians, to trade with the government and to carry out important contracts. Col. Allison's example has been telling. The question is will any minister give the Sherwood family the favors which Allison enjoyed, and with the possibility of new scandals?

Angus Sinclair, railway engineer and contractor, has been writing to the Globe, and expressing what appears to be the right idea of a patriotic fund out of which to supplement Canadian pensions after the war. His theory has been endorsed by the Prince of Wales, and is supported by some of the statesmen of England.

Major Allan Stroud, commanding "C" Squadron of Artillery, has carried off another batch of recruits to Hamilton. This is his recruiting ground, and in this district he is looking for men, and yet the depot is in Hamilton. This is an awkward arrangement and one that should not be continued any longer than possible. "C" Squadron should be in Kingston. The depot should be where the recruiting is done.

PUBLIC OPINION.

Only One Voice. (London Advertiser.) The Dutch call the German authorities liars. The only dissenting voice is the Kaiser's now.

Hit Germany Hard. (London Times.) We believe that we can and should hit Germany as hard in the markets of the world as in the field of battle.

Certainly Not. (Exchange.) The lord-lieutenant of Ireland complains that he was merely a figure-head. Is that supposed to be extraordinary?

Insulting the People. (Montreal Herald.) To compare the character of the Auditor-General with that of any of the war profiteers now being compelled to tell the story of their own smartness and of the corresponding lack of such on the part of those in authority, to put it mildly, is more of

an insult to the people of the Dominion than to the Auditor-General.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

The Kingston Quoit Club has opened with a large membership. Kingston policemen have donned white gloves and helmets for the summer. Portsmouth has a dandy brass band now. The members serenaded the city folk to-day.

CONSERVATIVE PRESS.

Rebuke To Partyism. Montreal Mail.

The Daily Mail has no particular use for Mr. Kite who made the charges, and it has still less for F. B. Carvell, who is exploiting them. The fact remains that enough has already come to light at the Meredith-Duff enquiry to prove that Mr. Kite would have done the country a disservice if he had failed to bring to the attention of the party press which was placed in his hands. Enough has been brought out to lend credibility to his charges and to the inferences which the public drew from them. The disclosures thus far have proved the imperative necessity of digging deeper into the Allison transactions. That is enough to warrant Mr. Kite's actions in putting his case before the House. It is not enough to justify positive or sweeping conclusions one way or the other. The case is still "subjudice," and it is strange that the party press is permitted to draw such positive conclusions which have no other object than to mislead and bewilder the public.

Lessons Of The Hour.

There were other things affecting the situation in the Province, however, besides the Ontario schools issue. The Liberal gains were not confined to the French-speaking constituencies. Divisions like Argenteuil, Brome, Missisquoi, Huntingdon, Chateauguay, Compton, Sherbrooke, Richmond, and Montreal St. Lawrence, in which the English-speaking vote is either in the majority or so strong as to be able to decide the way an election shall go, went with the rest of the Province and elected Liberals either by acclamation or by considerable majorities. English-speaking voters as a rule are not concerned over school issues in other provinces, except in that they would like to see disturbing questions out of the way and the people devoting their attention to more profitable matters. Many of them would probably have been inclined to vote against the party whose leaders in Parliament aggravated a disturbing business had there been nothing else in issue. There have been things happening at Ottawa, however, as well as in the other Provinces, and one Federal issue may have offset the other. The cold fact remains that in the result of yesterday's election there is no room for drawing any distinction between English-speaking and French-speaking constituencies. There are other lessons to be drawn from the situation, which may make themselves plainer in due course.

Random Reels

"Of Shoes and Ships, and Seals as Wax, of Cabbages and Kings."

THE BASE-BALL PITCHER.

The base-ball pitcher is a humble wage-earner disguised as a human windmill. He is one of the few wage-earners known who is able to earn a living with one arm by working four hours a week. When we see the number of men who are laboring with both arms on the streets of our cities and putting the same amount of thought into their work, without being able to lay up any money, while the major league pitcher draws a salary that would choke a sixteen-inch drain tile, we are tempted to believe that justice is not only blind but cross-eyed as well. The pitcher is assigned a position in the centre of the diamond, so that when he starts to wind up he will not maim any of the other players. Some pitchers have more wind-up than others, and just before discharging the ball can hardly be told from a pin wheel. Our most successful pitchers consist mostly of arms made of pure Para rubber, which they are able to wind around each other faster than a spoon couple on a park bench. Once in a while the pitcher's arm will change from rubber into glass, and when this happens he is politely but firmly removed from the play

roll and allowed to ruminate in some minor league town where a slow ball and a fast noodle will win six times out of four.

A good, durable pitcher without any booze or isinglass in his system commands higher wages than the fourth vice-president of the Steel Trust. Next to the Angora cat, he is the most pampered domestic animal in existence, unless it is the grand opera prima donna. He does not have to work at all in the winter, except to sign long typewritten articles for magazines, telling why his knuckle ball failed to knock in the seventh inning. His board is also paid by the club owner, who is thinking of putting up silos on the circuit in order to reduce expenses. The average pitcher is a light eater, seldom consuming more than \$3 worth of victuals at one sitting, after which he is stricken with remorse and gastritis and kept in bed with a hot-water bag.

Our best pitchers now come from the colleges, which turn out large numbers every year. Some of them are turned out before the school year is up, but others graduate in penmanship and thus learn to write their names high on fame's bright roll with the aid of a high in-shoot and good control.

Rippling Rhymes

THE MENAGERIE

All living creatures seem to throng the road that I would tour along, in my tin chugmobile; they'll leave their homes and travel far, to throw themselves beneath my car, and bust a costly wheel. All thoroughfares, with mules and goats, and sheep and hens and cats and snouts, forevermore are packed; I just collided with a cow—against her adamantine brow, my radiator cracked. The cows will leave the tender grass to block the road where I must pass, upon my road to town; the hogs will leave their sparkling swill to make a stand on yonder hill, and turn me upside down. Anon I squash a farmer's hen, that surely wasn't worth a yen, when it was in its prime; but now I hear the owner howl, "You killed my rare imported fowl, of pedigree sublime!" I jog along and break the stats of dogs and geese and cats, and always, when they die, the price goes up to bust the band; "They were the finest in the land," I hear the owners cry. The way the farmers' beasts run loose is certainly a great abuse, it's no more a joke; and if I travel west or east, at every corner there's a beast that's suffering to croak.



W. MASON

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