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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1913

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A SPLENDID WORK

In 1909 there were 118 deaths from tuberculosis in the city of St. John. In 1912 there were 84, and thus far during the present year 79. The material reduction in the number of deaths is largely due to the vigorous work carried on by the St. John Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. The work of the dispensary and of the nurses has done much to direct public attention to the means of combating the disease, and to those preventive measures which ought to be taken in every community. The Association is to be congratulated upon its work, and still more upon the brighter prospects for the future. The greatest handicap has been the lack of a sanitarium for advanced cases. This, it is now confidently expected, will be provided during the next year, and with a proper system of segregation of advanced cases there would be of course very much less danger of infection. As the matter stands now, every home in which there is an advanced case of tuberculosis is a centre from which the disease may spread.

The members of the Association have just closed a year of very active and fruitful work, and it must be a source of very great satisfaction to them, and to all who have been interested in the gradual awakening of the city to a sense of its duty in regard to the white plague, to know that there is now in the province a splendid sanitarium for incipient cases, and there will soon be in this city an hospital for advanced cases. Looking back and remembering the apathy against which the late Dr. Bayard and some of his time struggled so earnestly with so little apparent result, the friends of the cause may well take courage, and feel not only that a very great deal has been accomplished but that the outlook grows steadily brighter as the years pass.

INDUSTRIAL PRISON FARMS

There is vigorous opposition on the part of the Prison Association to the plan of rebuilding blocks of cells at Sing Sing, and attempting to rehabilitate that institution, which the New York Evening Post describes as "a disgraceful prison." It is contended by the Prison Association that in opposing reconstruction they are doing so on the ground of economy. The Evening Post goes further, however, and says:

"But the state of New York is really too poor to tinker with a prison which has been condemned from every point of view, because that would be merely temporizing with and modifying evil conditions, instead of abolishing them outright. Moreover, the whole theory of punishment upon which Sing Sing was based is antiquated and has been discarded. Every up-to-date state is looking to the establishment of prison industrial farms. New Jersey, Washington, and Ohio are three that are working in this direction. To urge that New York must continue to huddle its prisoners together in that contracted space in Sing Sing, or in the prison in the middle of Auburn, is false economy. For one thing it lays the entire stress on caging the prisoners and not upon treating them so that they will have at least a fair chance of re-entering society as reformed citizens. On the ground of the physical health of the prisoners alone, Sing Sing must go."

From every quarter comes the plea for the substitution of the prison industrial farm for the jail. If the reform is coming but slowly, it is nevertheless coming, and some parts of Canada have been progressive enough to be in the forefront of the movement. The province of New Brunswick should not lose any more time, or if the province will not act, then the municipality of the city and county of St. John should be permitted to take action on its own account to provide a municipal farm.

NAVIES AND TRIBUTE

An Australian writer, Mr. C. E. W. Bean, has written a book entitled "Flagships Three." It deals with the Australian navy. In 1908 Mr. Bean published a smaller book in which he insisted that Australia must share in the defence of the Empire, and that Australia must have a navy. Since 1908 much has happened, and now, telling of what Australia has done, he writes:—"It has had built to its orders the battle-cruiser Australia, the light cruisers Melbourne and Sydney, the destroyers Parramatta and the Yarra, and the submarines A. E. 1 and A. E. 2. It has put together in Australia the destroyer Warrego, has received, as a loan from the admiralty, the cruiser Encounter, and, as a gift, the small cruiser Pioneer. It is building for itself in Sydney the light cruiser Brisbane; and it has projected a battleship, three destroyers and two submarines; all this besides the necessary supply and depot ships. It has established a solid Naval Reserve, at least as thoroughly trained as the Royal Naval Volunteers. It has organized its harbor and dockyard establishments."

Mr. Bean also points out that "the Royal Australian navy will be administered and controlled by the government elected by the people of the Commonwealth." This statement is worthy of

attention from those persons in Canada who have charged Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Liberal party with disloyalty for having insisted that a Canadian navy ought to be controlled by Canada. Of course the Australian navy, controlled by Australia, is an integral part of the navy of the Empire, just as the Canadian navy will be when this country has got rid of Mr. Borden and his contribution scheme and proceeded to construct a navy of its own. The Dreadnought New Zealand, which is now in Halifax, is the result of the adoption by the Commonwealth of New Zealand of the policy of tribute, but that Commonwealth has lately reversed its policy, and will proceed to establish a navy of its own. That is what Canada will also do, when the people get an opportunity to declare themselves on this great question.

The province of Quebec under Liberal rule makes a splendid financial showing for the year. There is a surplus of nearly half a million.

The Mexican rebels, or, as they style themselves, the Constitutionalists, have won another important victory over the forces of President Huerta. His control of northern Mexico is steadily waning.

There is not a flag-flapper in York or Ontario county who is not praying earnestly that the Arrowhead potato raisers may fail in their efforts to get New Brunswick tubers shut out of the United States market. Having got a taste of it, they want more and not less "truck or trade with the Yankees."

The Standard informs its readers that "great enthusiasm marked the ward meetings of the Liberal-Conservative party held last evening." No doubt this is true. There was so much enthusiasm that there was a bitter fight in more than half the wards because of trouble over the division of the spoils.

The following paragraph is from the Canadian Courier:—"Canada must learn to practice economy. We are paying 37 per cent more for what we eat and wear than we did in the period from 1890 to 1900. The price of living is higher here than in any place else in the world. We are grossly extravagant and culpably reckless." It might be added that we are also unwise to tolerate a high food tax. The tariff must come down.

The Young Liberal Clubs of the province of Ontario have formed a federation for social, educational and political purposes. Fraternal visits are arranged, and it is now proposed to issue a monthly paper under the auspices of the federation. Such a movement among the younger politicians of the province of Ontario is of great promise, and the example set by the young Liberals there is worthy to be followed by the Young Liberals in other provinces.

At a meeting of business men in Manchester yesterday the armament race was denounced, and the hope expressed that workingmen would vigorously oppose the building of Dreadnoughts. This is a result of the activity of the armament-makers and other scare-mongers, who are constantly clamoring for greater expenditure on the navy. It is to be regretted that the advocates of greatly increased armament appear to have gained the ear of some members of the British government. That being so it is necessary for those who are convinced with Mr. Asquith that the time has come to secure "a safer and a more fruitful appropriation of the common resources of mankind," than expending them in a race for armament, to protest vigorously, and endeavor to arouse public sentiment against what one speaker described yesterday as "dangerous and criminal expenditures."

HUDSON BAY

J. B. Tyrell Speaks of Possibilities of New Route For Summer Service

(Times Special Correspondence) London, Nov. 11.—J. B. Tyrell, who recently arrived to join his wife in London, gives a most interesting account of the Patricia district which he explored last year at the request of the Ontario government. His views on the Hudson Bay route are opportune.

He says that hitherto neither the Hudson Bay Straits nor the approaches to the harbor of Port Nelson have been supplied either with light-house buoys or Marconi stations, and he is confident that when these are installed there is no reason why ocean steamships should not arrive and leave the new Hudson Bay port with as much safety between July and November as they do via the Straits of Belle Isle.

One of the great difficulties in approaching the harbor, he says, is the entrance is through a narrow channel, though the actual mouth of the harbor is more than twelve miles wide, consequently, without lights and buoys it has always been very difficult for vessels drawing even a small depth of water to locate their positions as there is a strong tide and current.

BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Major Edmund Wyle Grier, a noted portrait painter, was born in Melbourne Australia, fifty-one years ago. He has painted the portraits of many eminent Canadians and has had his work on exhibition in numerous galleries.

Hon. E. U. Lafontaine, judge of the Supreme Court of Quebec, was born in St. Edmund, P. Q., on Nov. 26, 1837. He practised law for many years in Montreal and was professor of Roman law at Laval University. He became a judge in 1908.

W. A. Tremayne, Canada's most noted and successful dramatist, observes his forty-ninth birthday today. He was born in Portland, Maine, but was brought up and still resides in Montreal.

LIGHTER VEIN

An angry mother had her little son by the hand and held a menacing cane. "I'll teach you to tie a knot in the cat's tail!" said the mother.

Petted Daughter—They asked me to play at Mrs. Highups' this evening and I did; but—

Fond Mother (proudly)—Were not they entranced?

Petted Daughter—Hum! When I played "A Life on the Ocean Wave" with variations half of them left the room.

Fond Mother (ecstatically)—That is wonderful! They must have felt seakick.

The little, mild, bald man had settled down in the train to read, and feeling drowsy after a trying day at business, fell asleep. On the hat rack above was a ferocious crab in a bucket, and reaching the edge of the rack it fell alighting on the little man's shoulder and grabbing his ear to steady itself.

All the passengers waited expectantly for developments, but all they heard was—

"I'll go, Sarah! I tell you I've been at the office all the evening."

"Want time in vaudeville, eh? Are you a baseball player?"

"No."

"Shoot anybody?"

"Never."

"What are you, then?"

"An actor, eh? Well, I don't know. Actors are unusually in vaudeville, but the very novelty of the thing might make it a go."

"What is your boy Jack studying for?"

"Well," replied Farmer Cornsmeal, "the boy is kind of held up as to his future. His mother wants him to be a minister. I want him to be a lawyer. His rich uncle wants him to be a doctor, and Josh is good naturedly hanging around 'n' lettin' us fight it out ourselves."

"Hullo!" exclaimed a costermonger on meeting an acquaintance. "Wot damages did yer get for being in that motor-bus yesterday?"

"Eavy ones, my boy," was the reply, accompanied by a grin. "I got £20 for myself and £20 for the miteus."

"The miteus? Was she hurt, too?"

"Yes, in course! I 'ad the presence of mind to fetch her one over the 'ead 'fore we was rescued!"

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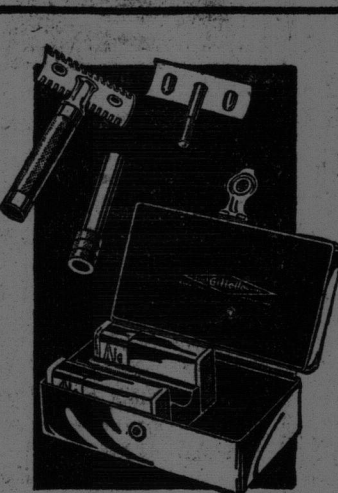
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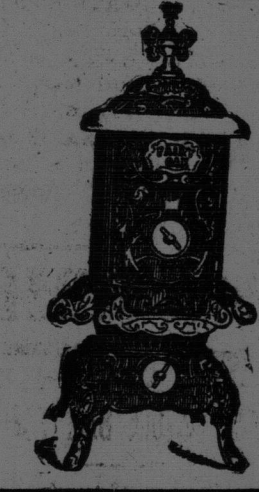
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A man who kept a small shop was waiting on a single customer early one morning. His little boy and he were together at the time, and the shopkeeper was obliged to go upstairs for some change. Before doing so he whispered to the little chap to watch the customer and see that he didn't steal anything. Very soon the proprietor returned with the necessary change and the boy rang out: "He didn't steal anything, Pa. I watched him."

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