

## The Evening Times and Star

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## THE EMPIRE SAVED

The people of the United Kingdom do not appear to be as grateful as they should be, for their salvation at a moment when the unhappy country was tottering to its fall.

Nor has the Canadian press done its full duty toward the noble band of rescuers who leaped into the breach and frightened the German navy out of a year's growth. It is true that the British Empire has been worrying along in an uncertain way for a long time, and that the men at the head of its affairs in London, and scattered over the world, are specially trained for their task. No doubt some of them are men of fair ability. Naturally, too, their relation to affairs in all parts of the world would give them a certain breadth of outlook; and they have behind them centuries of experience in the science of government, and of retaining the balance of power as between the nations. It is really quite an honor to be a great British statesman, and to be associated with the control of the affairs of the British Empire at headquarters.

But, when all this has been admitted, it is obvious to the Canadian mind that, in a crisis such as that which lately threatened, these jaded old-world statesmen of a decadent period could not save the Empire. What they needed was a lawyer from St. John, a lawyer from Halifax, and a lawyer from Quebec, to teach them a few lessons in up-to-date statesmanship. Happily the needed instruction has not been withheld. Mr. Harn, Mr. Borden and Mr. Balfour are on the job and it is not difficult to understand how completely their advent altered the complexion of affairs. A man who had practiced law in Halifax, another who had done the same in St. John, besides appointing a Central Railway Commissioner and an Agricultural Commissioner—these three alone would suffice; but, when they were aided by the man who had sat at the feet of Henri Bourassa in Quebec, the combination was irresistible. We can well understand that on their arrival a sense of security would steal over Westminster, and extend even to Buckingham Palace. The weary Titan heaved a great sigh of relief, and the German bogey hid itself in the depths of the Black Forest.

The ungrateful part of the business is that some of the "blasted Brits" do not seem to realize what has been done for them. They are disposed to assert that Canadians have no cause, just yet to set about and call themselves the saviors of the Empire. There is even a disposition in some quarters to maintain that if the government of the Empire were handed over to the present aggregation at Ottawa several things would happen, including the election by Kaiser Bill of Windsor Castle for a summer cottage.

This is, of course, very gallant to the citizen of Digby, Canada, who knows that the arrival of the Three Worthies from Ottawa in London saved the Empire; and who also knows how admirably fitted they are to solve all the problems that press upon the Aquatic government at the present time. It is quite true that imperial affairs have been controlled from London for a long time past, but that was before certain Canadian statesmen had laid aside their law practice and went gadding for honors and titles. They saw at once the signs of decay in the old hall on the other side of the Atlantic; and, as Canada raised an enormous wheat crop last year, and the neighbors had come in with millions upon millions of dollars to spend, they could well afford to run over to London and represent the Imperial majesty. The Englishman of today may not do them justice, but history will proudly record their Empire-saving adventures during the Great Crisis. Vive Borden, Hazen et Pelletier.

## THOSE STEAM WHISTLES

The Times has been urged to return to the subject of steam whistles which destroy the rest of so many citizens in the early hours of the morning. There is really no excuse for the sounding of whistles in the manner in which it is done in this city. The time-ball on the customs building rises and falls every day indicating the correct time. All the clocks and watches in the factories can get the correct time; and, if the whistles must sound, they should all do it at the same moment and end the agony. But there is a watch or a clock in every household, and alarm clocks are very cheap. People whose habit it is to rise at a certain hour seldom ever sleep themselves. If one of them does, it should not be necessary to disturb thousands of other people in order to awaken one. The owners of factories should feel that they owe some consideration to the public as well as to their employees. If the nuisance cannot be prevented in any other way, legislation must be sought. St. John is getting out on the front street. It can very well afford to give up some of its bad habits. The motor boat which goes up and down the harbor during the night hours making a terrific noise is another nuisance that ought to be abated. There are cities in which this sort of thing would not be tolerated. The people of St. John are very patient and long-suffering when there is no need of it.

The Paris Journal Le Siecle makes an observation which may appeal to some French-Canadians if not to Mr. Bourassa. Le Siecle says that when "British warships given by Canada are engaged in the North Sea, French-Canadians will be protecting not only the honor and interest of England but the glory and security of France."

## JAPAN'S RULERS

Japan's great Emperor, the man whose reign witnessed the awakening of his country and its rise to rank among the great powers of the earth, is dead, and his son has assumed the momentous responsibility of the imperial office. There is a singular mixture of the old and the new in the account of the proceedings at the palace. The royal family has never embraced Christianity, and the rites of Shintoism were performed by its priests when the Emperor died. He will doubtless be buried in the sacred city where for so many centuries his royal forefathers lived and were worshipped as of divine origin. Japan, during the lifetime of Mutsuhito has taken from the western world everything of value except the Christian religion, and it gives the same protection to a Christian missionary as is given to a Shinto or Buddhist priest. Religious toleration is the settled policy of its government, and one Japanese philosopher has declared that the Japanese mind is especially qualified to take the three religions which now exist there and from the best of each formulate a religion better suited to human needs than either of the three.

The passing of the Emperor is an event of world-significance. He was one of the world's great rulers, and his death marks an epoch in the affairs of his country. The new Emperor is said to be a man of ability, and he has been well trained for his great task. The people are devoted to the Empire, but he must prove his quality. Happily the statements of Japan are men of a splendid type, with an earnest ambition to serve their country, and there is at the time of the new Emperor's accession no serious cloud on the horizon. Moreover, in a very real sense, because of the religious beliefs of Japan, the Emperor, being dead, yet speaketh to his people.

The Canadian ministers are now saving the empire at banquets in Paris.

One of the strongest temperance sermons ever preached was that order of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad, forbidding the men in its transportation service to drink liquor either when on or off duty.

Mr. W. Burton Stewart brings good news whenever he visits St. John. Not only is he confident that St. John has a great steel plant, but he says most British capitalists are coming out in the fall to look the provinces over, with a view to investment.

Since the militia department has provided the city of St. John with some old cannon, there is no good reason why they should not be mounted on the squares. In years to come, if not at present, they would be regarded as interesting curiosities.

The Privy Council has sustained the decision of the supreme court of Canada and leaves the marriage law question in the hands of the provinces. That is to say, each province has exclusive power to make laws relating to the solemnization of marriage. The matter having been thus decided, it remains to be seen whether those who supported the Lancaster bill will press for an amendment to the British North America Act. It would not be surprising if this course were pursued.

Commodore Stewart proposes to make short work of the German war scare. He would have England declare war at once. He says: "War is a great evil, but wouldn't it be better to provoke war at once and smash the German navy into smithereens? And thus the danger of all Germany to get the biggest navy and the expense of outbuilding her would be avoided at one stroke. Let us have war. A short war would cost much less than a long peace with the present and prospective naval appropriations. Recruits should report at once at Chatham."

## YOUTH WINS BRIDE BY TRYING TO END LIFE

Girl Declares Her Love in Court and She and Husband Kiss Judge Who Marries Them

New York, July 30—"I love David and David loves me," said Miss Celia Reis, twenty years old, of No. 127 Seventh avenue, Mount Vernon, when David Schier, twenty-three years old, a drug clerk in the Bronx was arraigned today before Acting Judge Martin in Mount Vernon yesterday on a charge of having attempted suicide.

The girl's parents had objected to the marriage of the young couple. When Miss Reis acknowledged that she loved the young man, the magistrate suggested that they get a marriage certificate. Accompanied by the young woman's mother, they got the document, and were married by the magistrate. After the ceremony the bride threw her arms around the judge's neck and kissed him. That pleased the magistrate, but when Schier kissed him on the cheek the court appeared to be dazed.

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VERY SUSPICIOUS.

A well-known New York millionaire famed for his cautious habits was recently called upon by two promoters, who tried to interest him in a new money-making scheme.

"They talked to the great financier for about an hour, then they took their leave, having been told that his decision would be forwarded to them in a few days."

"I believe we've got him," said the first, hopefully, as they left the office.

"I don't know," rejoined the other, "he seemed very suspicious."

"Suspicious?" said the first. "What makes you think he was suspicious?"

"Did you notice," was the reply, "how he counted his fingers after he had shaken hands?"

**WHY HE ASKED.**

"Now, old man, make yourself comfortable, and let us talk over the good old times. We haven't seen each other since we were boys together, I told you I was married, didn't I? By the way, did you ever live in Painesville?"

"Yes, I lived there three years."

"Ever meet Miss Katiah?"

"Ha! Ha! Why, I was engaged to her! But that's nothing—all the fellows in my crowd were engaged to her at one time or another. I see you've lived in Painesville. Why did you ask about her in particular?"

"Why, I—er—I married her."

**NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH.**

On little Arthur's birthday he received a present of a very large turkey monkey. Two days later, his father found it lying in a corner with both eyes missing.

"My boy," asked father, more in sorrow than in anger, "why have you spoiled that beautiful monkey by pulling its eyes out?"

"Didn't!" replied Arthur briefly.

"Don't tell any untruths," snorted father, more in anger than in sorrow, "or I'll punish you. Why did you pull the monkey's eyes out?"

"Didn't!" repeated the little Arthur defiantly. Then he hurried on, as father took off his slipper. "I—I pushed them in!"

**CHARITY.**

"He said he would kiss me or die in the attempt."

"Well?"

"He has no life insurance and I pitied his poor old mother."

**IN THE SERVANT'S HALL.**

The young man who was always bragging about "My friend, Lord This," and "My pal, the Earl of That," was chatting one day with a friend when the conversation worked around to fish.

"At once the fish was his chance."

"Do you know," he began, proudly, "I was dining at Lord —'s the other evening, and I was much surprised to find that there was no fish served!"

The friend also saw his chance.

"No need to be surprised," he said, "I said brutally, 'I expect they'd eaten it all upstairs.'"

**NATURALLY.**

"Do you play any instrument, Mr. Jump?"

"Yes, I'm a cornetist."

"And your sister?"

"She's a pianist."

"Does your mother play?"

"She's a sitherist."

"And your father?"

"He's a preestmist."

**HIS TREASURE TROVE.**

A young man recently got married and took a house in the suburbs, determined to grow enough vegetables to keep the household going. He started to dig up the garden, and, after half an hour's hard work, was astonished to find a half dollar at his feet. Then he dug with renewed ardor. Several pennies, a dime, and a quarter rewarded his efforts.

"Bless me! If this ain't a gold mine!" he said, digging away like a man was worth. "I wonder what I'll find next!"

His arms ached, little beads of perspiration trickled down his nose, and his neck felt as though it was breaking. He could stick to it no longer. He straightened his back at last with a groan of pain, and at the same instant felt something cold sliding down his leg. In a moment he had grasped the truth. There was a hole in his trousers' pocket.

**SERIOUS INTERVIEW.**

The bookkeeper came out looking mysterious, and called for the office-boy.

"What are you doing?"

"Nothing."

"The boss wants to see you right away. I guess it's the grand bonus for you."

"Nix!" declared the office-boy. "I know what he wants."

"What does he want?"

"He wants to know what new players have been signed."

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