

The Standard

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SAINT JOHN, TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 23, 1911.

AS HEROES DIE.

No more pathetic recital of suffering and heroism is comprised in the long and honorable annals of the North West Mounted Police than that contained in the short diary of Inspector Fitzgerald between January 27th and February 5th, 1911. Baffled in their effort to locate the trail across the Hard Wind Divide, the North West Mounted Police patrol were driven to retrace their way to Fort MacPherson in the depth of an Arctic winter, and with a scant 40 lbs. of flour and 300 miles of bacon to sustain five men for a journey of 300 miles. The prospect was in itself enough to make the stoutest heart quail. They appear to have had a small supply of dried fish, which was reserved to feed their dogs. When this was exhausted each day saw the teams diminished by the necessary slaughter of one or more of the faithful animals, in order to sustain life in their remaining comrades in distress.

Soon the bacon and flour, weighed out with trembling hands from day to day, was exhausted, and the tale of remaining dumb brutes diminished one by one to feed the dying life of their human masters. Tents and caches were fallen in with, searched with feverish eagerness, and alas, found bare of any sustenance for human life. The old trails were filled up, unrelenting snows fell hour by hour, day by day, the frost king hurled his invisible cohorts upon the heads of the devoted travellers with bitter persistence, wild life avoided their paths, the heavens above and the earth around were alike pitiless, and silent to every prayer.

Sickness followed on the trail of hunger and privation; sickness which could be alleviated by no physician's skill nor any kindly ministrations of proper nourishment. Mile by mile they wore down the long track that led to the only possible safety, and God alone knows how long it seemed to the foot-sore, frost-bitten, weakened men whose hope was hourly sinking. Then one fell by the way and another, and lay still in the lap of the white pitiless waste, where, as no human hand could reach them, the drifting snows wrapped them in winding sheets of spotless purity.

On and still on pressed the now almost exhausted survivors, 23 degrees below zero, 10 miles on February 2nd; 26 degrees below, 14 miles February 3rd, says the record, and out of the depths of their distress rose the heroic hope which breathes in the lines pencilled that day by Inspector Fitzgerald:—"We have travelled about 200 miles on dog meat and have still 100 miles to go, but I think we shall make it all right."

Alas for the gallant souls! February 4th brought 32 degrees below zero, with going very heavy and 8 miles traversed, and Sunday, February 5th, 48 degrees below, added eight miles further, and then, the end. Over that end the impenetrable curtain has been drawn, never to be rolled back. Only a torn piece of paper pinned to the clothes of the Inspector, with its 22 words, traced by dying hands for a mother whom he should never again see with the final words, "God bless all."

Faithful, suffering, heroic souls, rendered up on the altar of service for the country they loved, their names and their memory will be held in honor wherever the tragic and pathetic story of their sacrifice is told. They obeyed orders, they did their simple duty, and they delivered up their lives in doing it. For that we shall always honor them. But we cannot help asking if the circumstances warranted the risk, and we cannot help hoping that never again for so slight reasons, will human life be put to so severe and tragic a test.

TRAINING FARMERS FOR CANADA.

An ambitious project for training young men of moderate means for agricultural careers in Canada has recently been given a practical start at Woking in England, and bids fair to be a success. Agricultural colleges and model farms Britain has in plenty, but the cost of tuition at these establishments places their facilities beyond the reach of the man, who, if he could, would forsake the pen for the plough. A recent visit to Canada convinced the Hon. Rupert Guinness that if the demand for efficient farm labor was to be met by Great Britain, some step should be taken whereby Britons could have an opportunity of going through a short, but comprehensive, course of training for a useful life in the Dominion.

Mr. Guinness has secured a 150-acre farm situated near his country residence, some two miles from Woking, and has equipped it with all the latest appliances, and has placed it in charge of a gentleman who is an associate of the Ontario Agricultural College. In Mr. C. L. S. Palmer the experimental farm has a hard-headed, energetic manager—one whose experiences in many parts of the globe fit him eminently for a position such as this. In the course of six weeks the would-be emigrant will be enabled to assimilate, as far as British resources permit, Canadian methods and ideas of farm work. "But let it be clearly understood," said Mr. Palmer, in an interview, "that we do not undertake to teach farming in six weeks. That is, of course, a matter of impossibility. One cannot learn farming, Canadian or otherwise, in seven years. The practical farmer learns something fresh as each day passes."

There is sufficient accommodation for fifteen students, but three only are undergoing the course of tuition at the present time, two being 19 and the third 20 years of age. One of their number, who has been in residence but a single week, came from a London silk merchant's office. Clad in rough clothes and a blue jersey, and with bronzed face and wind-ruffled hair, it was difficult to realize that the young fellow with a pruning hook had once been a town-dweller. The other youth came straight from a well-known London bank, whilst the eldest of the three was formerly engaged on a poultry farm.

The men are up at 6 o'clock every morning. They breakfast at 6:30 or 6:45, put in a hard morning's work until 12, and are in the fields or barns from 1 o'clock until 6—recognized Canadian hours. In the case of young fellows who are leaving for isolated parts of Canada, a kitchen course is prescribed. "You would be surprised," said Mr. Palmer, in conducting a newspaper representative over the farm, "how extraordinarily little some young fellows know of the most elementary matters associated with farming." Mr. Guinness admitted that he felt hopeful as to the ultimate effects of

the scheme. "Young men," he said, "are going to Canada by thousands, but I am anxious that some attempt shall be made to send a class of men who are conversant, to some extent, with the features of the new life they intend adopting in Canada." The average uninitiated young fellow who went to Canada as a farm hand had, he said, an awful time. Very often he would fall into the hands of the least desirable farmer, who would utilize his lack of knowledge as a pretext for giving him a small wage.

Fifteen shillings weekly will be charged for board and lodging, laundry, papers and petty breakages, and every candidate will be expected to deposit with the farm manager sufficient to pay his passage to Canada, plus the minimum amount—at present £5—required to be shown to the Immigration Department of Canada as evidence of means. Candidates are likewise obliged to give assurances of their physical fitness.

THE EARLY CLOSING BY-LAW.

The haste with which the Common Council passed the early closing by-law without debate and without consideration has roused opposition in several quarters, notably from the small store keeper who finds himself confronted with an arbitrary law in restraint of trade which he has some right to complain will seriously affect his business with no possibility of redress as long as it remains in force and unamended.

To add to the irony of the situation the early closing movement was not primarily intended to affect the little storekeeper, who employs no hired help, but was designed to give an extra hour or two of leisure to employees in the larger stores which could well afford to close at a stipulated hour and without injustice to anyone provided all stores of the same class and in the same line of business did likewise.

The little store on the side street is in a class by itself. Conducted by its owner, often a man or woman of advanced years or in straightened circumstances to whom every dollar is of importance, it interferes with no man's rights. To be compelled to close two or three hours earlier than has been the custom and lose the evening trade, which in some localities is considerable, is naturally regarded as a hardship.

The by-law shows no discrimination and should be repealed until such time as the act on which it is based, and which is only permissive, can be amended. If the object to be attained is to give a few hours extra leisure to those who need it, there should be no difficulty in making the changes necessary to that end without penalizing a worthy and hardworking class of citizens whose income is not any too large at the best of times.

THE TRUTH WILL OUT.

An incident not without its amusing features is referred to by the Moncton Times in connection with the visit of the reciprocity speakers who were recently brought to New Brunswick by the Liberals. One of the speakers at Woodstock was Mr. Guthrie, M. P., and while at the enterprising Carleton county town he was given an automobile ride through a large section of the county.

In speaking afterwards of this ride he expressed the utmost pleasure at the signs of prosperity and thrift evidenced on every hand, and also his delight with the beautiful country. He was particularly eulogistic of the splendid highways, and stated that in rural Ontario they did not have roads that would at all compare in excellence with those he found in New Brunswick.

Mr. Guthrie was asked if he did not know that it was impolitic on the part of a Liberal to speak favorably or even fairly of the Hazen highways in New Brunswick; to which he replied that he knew nothing of our local politics and cared less, but he felt impelled to speak the truth and to compliment New Brunswick upon its excellent highways.

Current Comment

(Montreal Gazette.)
Senator Thompson, who is an appointee of the Laurier Government, says the construction of the projected St. John Valley Railway is necessary because, when the National Transcontinental Railway through New Brunswick was being built it was diverted from its proper route by political influences. The new road is needed, he says, to serve a settled valley, neglected by the National Transcontinental, which runs through an uninhabited, hilly country, with big trees and pusher grades. So the country is first called on to pay for the Government's mistakes and then for a new road to avert the consequences of the mistakes. It should be nearly time for the country to finish Laurier's work, and Laurier.

(Ottawa Free Press.)
After the experience of the United States with the great trusts, the Canadian people have not viewed with comfort the introduction of the merger bill into this country. Given certain conditions, it is quite conceivable that the amalgamation of rival concerns is a good thing, eliminating the duplication of expenses and the waste of overhead charges. But if the merger is merely a scheme to enable clever operators to get rich quick by selling watered stock after skinning off the cream unbeknown to the buyers, we want none of it.

(Philadelphia Ledger.)
The sixty thousand school children of Cleveland must hereafter devote the first five minutes of the morning session to dentistry. That is to say, in plain English, they must brush their teeth. The flat of the board of education has gone forth. Pretty soon, between taking baths, having the eyes examined, the tonsils removed and adenoids taken out, there will not be much room in the school course for the plain sewing and fancy laundering required.

(London Free Press.)
There should be no affectation of surprise or indignation that the Ottawa Government is using the taking of the census as a part of the elaborate spoils system. This is the admitted policy of the Government, and it will last as long as does the Government itself. Indeed, the existence of the Government depends largely upon its perpetuation.

(Boston Globe.)
Mme. Nordica has sailed for Europe, wearing a hat that she trimmed herself. Her husband, who is a banker, says that he is proud of the achievement; and adds that the family is economizing these days. Still, Nordica any time could get a mighty good hat for a song.

(Hamilton Herald.)
There was a great public uprising in Vercheres, Quebec, because the sign put over the local postoffice bore the two English words. This postoffice sign is also a sign of the times.

(Ohio State Journal.)
The lame ducks are strongly in favor of the commission form of government, their only stipulation being that there be enough commissions to furnish 'em all jobs.

13 WEEKS IN HOSPITAL

Came Away No Better and Then Two Boxes of Zam-Buk Worked Completely Cured.

Mr. Fred Mason, the well-known upholsterer and mattress manufacturer of St. Andrews, N. B., says:—"I had eczema on my knee, which caused me terrible pain and inconvenience. The sore parts would itch and burn and tingle, and then when rubbed or scratched, would become very painful. I tried various remedies but got no better, so I decided to go to Montreal and take special treatment. I received treatment at the Montreal General Hospital for thirteen weeks, but at the end of that time it was not cured, and almost gave in. A friend advised me to give Zam-Buk a trial, and although I had little hope of it doing me good, I took the advice. Almost as soon as applied Zam-Buk stopped the itching and the irritation. I persevered with the balm, and it was soon evident that it would do me good. Each day the pain was reduced, the sore spots began to heal, and by the time I had used a few boxes of Zam-Buk I was cured. I mean business. For eczema, blood-poisoning, piles, ulcers, sores, abscesses, varicose ulcers, bad leg, sore feet, blisters, insect bites, burns, scalds, sunburn, bruises and all skin injuries and diseases, Zam-Buk is without equal. Zam-Buk Soap should also be used for eczema, blood-poisoning, sores and sores. All druggists and stores sell Zam-Buk at 50c. box and Zam-Buk Soap at 25c. per tablet, or from Zam-Buk Co., Toronto.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of The Standard.
Sir,—As the concert billed for May 19 at the Every Day Club did not take place and as tickets were sold for that date, I beg to inform the public that the postponement was unavoidable and that they will be given an opportunity to hear the concert at a later date. It was not a fake to get money, but I was unable to be present at that date on account of work. I beg to state I want the people to get the worth of their money and prove to them that I mean business.

I will notify the holders of tickets through the press of the date and all tickets dated May 19 will be good when the concert is put on.

Trusting this will satisfy all concerned and that they will put their confidence in me once again.

I remain, yours respectfully,
WALTER GRAY.

THE EARLY CLOSING BY-LAW.

To the Editor of The Standard.
Sir,—I find in reading your valuable paper that there is some opposition to the early closing by-law, which would lead a person to exclaim that "Man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn." Those people who oppose this law must forget that there are others in the business world besides themselves. Surely from seven o'clock in the morning till ten or eleven in the evening is too long a day for people to be kept at work. I will notify the holders of tickets through the press of the date and all tickets dated May 19 will be good when the concert is put on.

Now that the tendency of the age is to take more pleasure out of life by means of recreation it is to be hoped that the citizens will give their hearty support and assistance to a measure which will give to a large number of people the same privileges which they themselves enjoy.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for your valuable space,
I am, yours very truly,
GROCER.

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THE THREE GOLD BALLS

The History of the Emblem of Modern Pawnbrokers as Told in Interesting Old Legend and Story.

Hangings to the three gold balls which may be seen on Kansas City streets is the story of the pawnshop, for history has granted the pawnbroker a perpetual patent on the sign and it is his exclusively.

In the vernacular of the street the pawnbroker's establishment is variously known as "Uncle Sam's Place," "Mine Uncle," "The House of Lombardy," "The Lumber," "The Spout," "The Pop Shop," "The Soak Shop," "The Hook Shop," or "The Tank."

The original of some of the appellations peculiar to the pawnshop is apparent, while that of others is obscure or untraceable. For years it was the custom of the pawnbroker to conduct his business in a building of two or more stories, so constructed that a spout or pipe ran from the second or third floor to the warehouse at the top of the house. The pledged articles were ticketed and "popped" up the spout to the warehouse, where they were returned down the spout to the shop.

This easily accounts for "up the spout," "the spout," and "the pop-shop." It also answers the way of "the soak shop" and "where the woodbine twined." The latter expression was invented by the notorious Pike in reference to bonds hypotheated on the water spout of country houses there is generally a woodbine growing. The pawnbroker was originally dubbed "My Uncle" or "My Aunt" ("My Aunt"), as this useful and accommodating personage was known to the French, because of the pretense that the money obtained by pawning was from a rich relative. One readily connects "The House of Lombardy," "The Lumber" and "to lumber" (meaning to pawn) with the Lombard merchants, but what of "in lock" and "the hook shop"?

It is worthy of remark that some of this vernacular found a place in literature. "As to the other cloak and shawl, don't be afraid; they shan't go to the pawnshop,"—"Lord Lytton, "Ernst, Maltravers."

"And that he meant to pop. It round at 'uncle's shop.' I never had a doubt."

"—Song, "Many Capers I Have Seen." "He went one morning and spouted his watch to raise funds."—"J. Wight, "Mornings at Bow Street."

"The donee going to spout the college plate."—"T. Hughes, "Tom Brown at Oxford."

"I hold it truth with him who says 'That spout from the top of the spout.' One's watch, and not to get it out 'Till after lapse of many days.'—"Bird of Freedom."

"And his pockets, no doubt, being turned inside out. That his mouchoul and gloves may be put up the spout."

"—Ingoldsby Legends. As for spoons, forks and jewelry, they were not taken so readily to the melting pot, but to well known places where there is a sign (spout) which your lordships may have seen in a pawnbroker's shop.—The Times.

There were three of these floors, and the spout from the top of the spout to the topmost. On every floor was a sharp and active youth whose business it was to discover and send "down the spout" the ransomed bundle.—Greenwood, "In Strange Company."

The two youths made a call and the watch was soaked with a pawnbroker and \$25 obtained upon it.—Daily Inter Ocean.

My money is out, my watch is at my Uncle Roushild's, and I have nothing to pay with—Joseph Miller, "Memories and Rime."

But why the three gold balls, and what their significance was to a pawnbroker? An interesting legend runs thus:—In the town of Patara lived a certain nobleman with his three daughters, for whom he was unable to provide suitable marriage portions. This story reached the ears of the good St. Nicholas who delighted in employing the immense inheritance in the alleviation of suffering, and in the performance of innumerable acts of charity. His heart was stirred with pity for the unfortunate family and he immediately resolved to avert the degradation which threatened it. It was a habit with St. Nicholas to perform his good deeds secretly, so he proceeded to the nobleman's house at night. As he reconnoitered and debated within himself how he might best accomplish his purpose, the moon appeared from behind a cloud and revealed an open window into which he threw a purse of gold.

This fell at the feet of the father of the maidens and he was thus enabled to portion his eldest daughter. The saint paid a second nocturnal visit to the house and bestowed a similar gift which proved the marriage dowry for the second daughter. The father then determined to discover the mysterious benefactor of his family (that he might personally thank him, so with this object in view he set himself to watch. When St. Nicholas approached and prepared to throw in the purse of money, the third daughter, the nobleman caught hold of the skirt of his robe and throwing himself at his feet, exclaimed, "O, Nicholas! Servant of God! Why seek to hide thyself?" But the saint bade him to inform no one of his timely act of charity. Because of this instance of munificence attributed to St. Nicholas, he is often represented bearing three purses or three gold balls, and it was this device, emblematic of the charitable saint, that gave origin to the three balls commemorative of the princely Medici family of Florence, Italy. The Lombards were the first great money lenders, and of the Lombards the members of the house of Medici were the first to engage in money lending as a regular business. They were, so to speak the first pawnbrokers.

Swedenborg, His Life and Mission. A lecture by Rev. C. Edgar Ritter of Springfield, Mass., on the above subject will be given at 183 Union street on Thursday evening at 8 o'clock (May 25). All those wishing to learn more about the great Swedish thinker are invited.

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Sunshine Furnace has four triangular grate bars, each having three distinct sides. In the single-piece and two-piece grate no such provision is made for expansion or contraction, and a waste of coal always follows a shaking.

On the left- and right-hand sides are cotter pins, which when loosened permit the grates to slide out. These four grate bars are made of heavy cast iron, and are finished up with bulldog teeth. The teeth will grind up the toughest clinker; and

because the grates are made in sections, not only can nothing but dust and ashes pass through, but after each shaking a different side can be presented to the fire. Also, with the Sunshine grate there is no back-breaking movements attached to the shaking. By gently rocking the lever, first on the left and then on the right, the ashes are released on both sides, and fall through into the pan.

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