

# POOR DOGMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1921

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#### THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

The political situation daily grows more interesting. Premier McPherson is having great difficulty in finding cabinet members in Quebec. The announcement that Hon. Charles Doherty has declined appointment to the international court of justice appears to mean that he will stand by the Conservative ship in its distress. The Liberal conference in Ottawa has developed the fact that the Liberals of Prince county (P. E. I.) are determined if possible to get consent of Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King to be a candidate again in that constituency, and he must now choose between Prince and North York, where he had already accepted a nomination. In this province the rumor grows that Hon. Mr. Baxter is ready to go into the cabinet, while Mr. George B. Jones would accept a nomination in Royal and Dr. Taylor in Charlotte. The question is again raised as to whether Hon. Mr. Ballantyne will persist in his decision to retire, or whether he will follow the example of Hon. Mr. Doherty. Along with the announcement that Mr. H. H. Stevens in Vancouver will be taken into the government, comes the news that the Liberals there want Hon. Mrs. Ralph Smith to oppose him in the elections. Mr. H. H. Dewar, provincial Liberal leader in Ontario, may accept a nomination for an Ontario seat. Of course we must deal largely with rumors until Mr. McPherson names his cabinet and announces the date of the elections. Interest in the coming campaign grows more keen from day to day, and it is clear that when the fight is fairly on it will be intensely exciting from coast to coast.

#### THE AMERICAN TARIFF.

A full report of the remarks of Postmaster General Hays on the tariff, in his speech in Cleveland, appears to confirm the belief in some quarters that the Fordney bill will not be adopted this year. He wrote: "Referring to the other phase of the activity at Washington peculiarly economic—the tariff. To thoughtful men there must be approval of a certain limitation and disposition to be sure footed in the consideration of this subject. I was to attempt to express a summing up of the present state of mind of Congress and thoughtful men about the tariff. It would seem to me that it amounts to a feeling that the present year is not a good one in which to write a permanent tariff bill to last for many years to come. Conditions throughout the world are too chaotic to be able to forecast exactly what is needed. The very basic condition on which a tariff is built—namely, the cost of manufacturing in various European countries with relation to our own cost of manufacture and the value of the currency of the various European countries with relation to the value of our own currency—is at the present moment as fluctuating as quicksand and as unforeseeable in the future as the weather. A dependable tariff built upon such a foundation is difficult, of course. It has been thought by many that we could overcome these handicaps by a device which we called American valuation, and which provided that all customs duties should be estimated upon the value of goods at the time when they arrive in the United States and in terms of American money. Looking carefully into this, it has been thought that this device might not overcome the handicap, and further, might have a boomerang effect on our own interests. The end of it has been that we have appropriated \$100,000 to investigate this device and otherwise determine what might be done to help towards writing a permanent tariff." Mr. Hays went on to say that "these conditions of fluctuation and instability which make the writing of a permanent tariff so difficult at the moment, may in some measure be relieved after the disarmament conference has taken place and we have accomplished steps which the president has in mind for the adjustment of our international relations," which can only be interpreted to mean that perhaps a permanent tariff measure will be adopted next year. At all events there would appear to be in administration circles a feeling averse to present action. Mr. Hays would hardly speak as he did without knowledge of the views of President Harding. And, as one Journal has observed, the administration has been hearing from the country. The action of congress will be awaited with more interest because of the apparent attitude of the president and his colleagues.

In two recent by-elections in South Africa the Labor candidates defeated those of the government led by Premier Smuts. The whole country is said to have been surprised at the result, and press dispatches say: "The leading South African newspapers attribute the turn of votes to economic distress for which they declare the government has been made the scapegoat. The Cape Times says the electors would be pushed to explain what they hope to gain by their decision, since neither of the Labor candidates offered a practicable alternative to the government's policy."

#### THE FIRE WASTE

The Halifax Chronicle says: "This year the fire loss in August and in July and June was greater than last year, or the year before. The reason lies deeper than summer droughts." The Chronicle is right. Drought helped to spread the fire, but it did not cause them. When will all the people realize as they should the danger from fire carelessly set, and their individual responsibility in relation thereto? More attention must be given to the subject in the schools. Children trained to habits of care in such matters and made aware of the great interests at stake are not likely to change those habits as they grow older. The lesson of the present year should suffice to make every individual in New Brunswick more careful, whether in the wilderness or in the city, in regard to fire and the possible results of a live match or cigarette end carelessly thrown into an accumulation of inflammable material. Householders also should be made more wary about such accumulations, and in the forests greater care is evidently needed in the removal of the slash that furnishes such food for flames.

With regard to the forests, there is so much woodland of one kind and another as to give rise to a feeling that the supply will never be exhausted, but those who know have already given warning that the trees are being cut too rapidly for the average growth; and when to this is added the destruction by fire, the final result is but too obvious. And her forests are New Brunswick's greatest source of provincial revenue. When it fails the alternative will be direct taxation.

This problem is so acute in the United States that a start has been made toward the conservation of the timber that remains. A New York paper says: "Thirty-three states have provided within the past few years, most of them in recent months, some sort of conservation programmes. Twenty-five share in the federal co-operative forest protective fund and applications are on file from others for aid from this source. The Snell bill, outlining a comprehensive national forest programme, is pending in congress, with good chances of passage. This bill calls for the appropriation of a minimum of \$11,000,000 a year. Pennsylvania, which has Gifford Pinchot, pioneer conservationist, as its forest commissioner, leads all states in its activities for conservation. The most recent session of the legislature in that state, voted \$1,000,000 for forest conservation alone. Other states are falling into line, and in the south especially efforts are under way to save what is left of the magnificent yellow pine forests, once thought inexhaustible, but now rapidly disappearing before great sawmills, storms and forest fires. What has been done is small enough compared to the magnitude of the whole problem, but a beginning has been made. There is need for haste, both to save what forests are left and to begin plantations of new ones. A combination of state and federal forces is the solution."

The Irish republican parliament is assembling to consider the proposals of the British government. It is a momentous meeting. Confidence is still expressed that the negotiations will not be broken off, and that depends entirely on the question whether the demand for an Irish republic is to be dropped. If the Irish leaders are well advised the way is open for permanent peace.

Hon. Mr. Wignmore will be entertained at a banquet in Montreal. How will he be received by the party in St. John? This is a question of universal interest, in view of certain rumors abroad as to his possible successor in the government.

The financial difficulties of the British government are shown by the returns of the exchequer from April 1 to Sept. 10, compared with the corresponding period last year. The receipts were \$141,000,000 less but the expenditures only \$7,000,000 less.

An attempt is being made to make Canadian Clubs a national and international force rather than mere luncheon parties. An especial aim, as with the Rotary Clubs, is the promotion of cordial relations between the Empire and the United States.

No interest will suffer by the decision not to make a large expenditure on the east side ferry floats along the lines that have been proposed. That is the judgment of men who should be competent to judge in the matter.

A substantial advance in fox prices at the Montreal fur sales yesterday is good news for ranchers in the lower provinces. From \$335 to \$360 for a single silver fox pelt from Prince Edward Island is a pretty high mark.

#### LIGHTER VEIN.

When their father died, Ike, Abe and Benjamin found that he had left each of them \$2,000. Benjamin decided to open a tailor's shop; the others thought they would wait a bit and see how he got on. As he did quite well, Abe took the shop two doors away, and, thinking to profit by Benjamin's success, had it decorated in exactly the same style. Each bore the sign, "Mosenstein, the Famous Tailor." After a few months, the cautious Ike decided that he, too, would become a tailor. He took the shop between those of his brothers, and consulted the same sign painter.

"Yes," said Ike. "I want a shop with one great big door. Over it you can write: 'Mosenstein, Tailor; main entrance.'" A woman, no longer in the blush of her first youth, was trying to overcome the reluctance of her little niece to retire to bed for the night. "Being six years old," she said, "you should go to bed at six o'clock. When you are older you can stay up till seven, and when you are eight till eight."

The child did a quick mental arithmetic sum, her head bent and then came up at the kindly face with its crown of gray hairs. "O, auntie," she inquired. "Don't you never go to bed at all?"

Answered Advertisement for Housekeeper and Married 70-Year-old Employer.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Sept. 14.—Eleanor Clark, a former Rockland County telephone girl, who answered an advertisement for an attractive wealthy employer, and who married her wealthy employer, has found that being an "old man's darling" isn't all that she expected it to be. She is now suing for a separation, alimony and counsel fees, and a hearing was held in the case before Justice Morschauser here. In her complaint she says that her seventy-six year old husband, Edward H. Clark, denied her the life of luxury and love that she expected, and from the first days of their marriage had been penurious and cruel. She says she was compelled to look after Clark's big house in Metuchen, N. J., which was not permitted to receive any friends or go anywhere, and that thirty dollars a month was all Mr. Clark allowed her to run the big house. Edward H. Clark inserted the advertisement for a housekeeper in a New York paper in March, 1918, which she answered. He was then more than seventy and she was seventeen. She took the job and the friendship established led to marriage on July 6, 1918. She now alleges that from the time of her marriage her husband was jealous of her, and locked her in her room the greater part of the time. Counsel for Mr. Clark stated that, if Mr. Clark had done this, it was necessary in order to keep track of her. "There should be a law that all these old men who marry young women should have a guardian appointed to look after them," commented the justice.

Clark makes a general denial, as says that his wife beat, scratched and kicked him on several occasions.

#### MORNING NEWS OVER THE WIRES

A heavy electrical storm hit Apoham last evening, resulting in a fire. A barn belonging to Fred Parlee, about three miles from the village, was struck and burned, also a house owned by Mrs. Palmer Northrup. There was no insurance on the Parlee barn which was totally destroyed together with hay, grain, farm implements and some live stock.

The steamer Canadian Importer has reached Victoria, B. C., with a heavy list and leaving very badly. Her crew were still at her posts of duty.

Judgment was delivered at Moncton yesterday by Judge Bennett in the case of B. Jonah of Sussex. The latter had been convicted and fined on a charge of violating the traffic laws by going to the right of a silent policeman in his car. Instead of to the left. Judge Bennett held that the proceedings taken against Judge Jonah were unwarranted, that there was no violation of the law and that the town's course in the matter was wholly unjustified.

John McLennan of Sydney is dead as the result of walking out a window and falling fourteen feet. Death was instantaneous.

Premier Foster opened the St. Stephen fair yesterday afternoon. The attendance was very large and the prospects are bright for a successful exhibition. W. N. Cockburn, K. C., presided. The ball game in the afternoon was won by St. Stephen from Milltown, six to three. The fifteen year old son of John Parer who lives near Bryant's corner, Kent county, was shot on Monday evening while endeavoring to load a revolver. His injuries were not very serious.

The trial of Charles Brown, held on a charge of murder in connection with the death of Victor Cahill, will be held some time about October 23. Cecil Alexander was arrested and fined \$100 on a liquor charge arising out of the affair.

The Woodstock exhibition opened yesterday with the attendance all that could be desired. The exhibits were very clever and the best ever shown in Woodstock. Hon. D. W. Merreveau carried out the opening ceremony. This afternoon the great race between Macartney Dillon, Director J. and John R. Braden will take place.

W. C. T. U. QUARTERLY. The County W. C. T. U. met in quarterly session at the Charlotte street Baptist church yesterday afternoon. Mrs. G. Colwell was in the chair. Mrs. Jenner led the devotional exercises. Reports from the different unions showed increased activity. Rev. J. H. Jenner told of abuses at former elections and advocated the spread of temperance lessons among the young. Rev. C. T. Clark reminded the members that they were privileged to live in a great day, and that he had no doubt as to the outcome of a free referendum. Mrs. Seymour gave a reading entitled "Woman as a Worker for Jesus." Mrs. David Hipwell spoke of the responsibility of getting all voters out next week. A social hour was enjoyed at the close of the meetings.

#### LOCAL NEWS

Carpenters and Joiners of America, Local 519, meets tonight at 8. By order.

OLD COUNTRY CLUB. Dance and social, Friday, 16th, at 8 p. m. Gents, 50c. Ladies please bring boxes. 11815-9-16

Preserving jars at special prices. Duvall's, 15-17 Waterloo street. Open evenings. 9-10

CORRECTION. E. Clinton Brown was a contributor of \$5 omitted in last acknowledgment of the St. John Protestant Orphan Home.

Baseball—Double-header, East End grounds, Thursday afternoon at two o'clock. Commercial vs. Perth. 11346-9-16

Preserving jars at special prices. Duvall's, 15-17 Waterloo street. Open evenings. 9-10

SOME SHOOTING IN MILL ST. The sharpshooters taking advantage of the new shooting gallery recently opened. Special attention is given to marksmanship and instruction to new beginners. Prizes given away each week for the best shot.

REWARD OF \$25. I will give \$25 reward for information, in addition to what I have, leading to conviction of the parties who broke into my camp at Debert's Lake, Loch Lomond, road, on last Thursday night and previously. There are one or two things I need to complete evidence for prosecution, and for this information I will pay \$25. William J. McMillin, Druggist, Haymarket square. 11339-9-19

TWO SHIPS' CREWS LEFT PENNILESS IN NEW YORK.

Two crews of seamen, officers and men are stranded in New York today, absolutely penniless through no fault of their own. They are victims of treacherous circumstances and of red tape, and what is going to become of them would be an excellent illustration of the manner in which independent and self-reliant men may be made paupers by official indifference, added to misfortunes beyond their control.

The steamship City of Brunswick, out of Mobile, was wrecked off the coast of Nova Scotia some weeks ago, and her crew, composed largely of Alabama men, was rescued and brought into Halifax. Now, the United States shipping laws state that men wrecked on a foreign coast shall have their wages paid up to the time of the wreck and shall then be transported, free, back to the port of shipment. The City of Brunswick's crew, stranded from the American Consul at Halifax the strange substitute of a passage to New York, though why it should be so is not known. The official whose duty the law makes it to look after their case have not acted, and the men are existing from day to day in the keenest anxiety.

At any rate, here they are, thirty-two of them, with money due them, yet with no funds, no means of subsistence except the charity of the institute, and no prospect of getting any further. The officials whose duty the law makes it to look after their case have not acted, and the men are existing from day to day in the keenest anxiety.

When the Consul dispatched them from Halifax to New York, he gave them a letter to the Shipping Commissioner here, but the Commissioner, states—and quite properly—that he has no authority to do anything at all in this case, which falls within the province of the Consul. The Secretary of State has not replied to communications concerning their plight.

The shipping company has washed its hands of their troubles. They were dropped here, penniless, and left to struggle out as best they could. The case of the "hundred" or of appealing to the institute to take them in for an indefinite period.

Almost all the men come of good family and would find relief if they were taken to Mobile in accordance with the provisions of the Shipping Law. One of them is a student at the University of Chicago, who had relied upon the income from this summer cruise to help pay his expenses this winter. It would cost \$2,800 to ship them back to Alabama, and nobody will assume the responsibility of doing this.

Side by side with the crew of the City of Brunswick in the crowded hall of the institute are the destitute crew of the Ruth E. Merrill, a six-masted schooner, whose owners have gone bankrupt. The sixteen men are sticking to her as a place of lodging, while they depend upon charity for food, because they hope that when she is sailed and sold they will get their share of the proceeds—which is by no means certain in such cases. For fourteen months they have been sailing in her, off the coast of Africa and other foreign shores, knowing well that she was already financially ailing, but rearing their heads on the chance of getting any money was to stick to her until she was taken to New York to be sold.

So here are forty-eight, who—battered, starved and penniless—stranded in our midst without the price of a pipe of tobacco and without any tomorrow that any one at present can perceive.

#### EXPERIMENT SUCCESS WITH PREVENTORIUM

What proved a successful experiment in a preventorium has just been concluded at the Royal Ottawa Sanatorium. During the two summer months six children who had been exposed to tuberculosis in their homes had sunny comfortable quarters in the Lady Victoria Grenfell Building which was erected in memory of his daughter. A nurse in charge gave the best of care and supervision, with the result that every one of them gained weight and improved substantially by the time school reopened.

It has been proven that with proper preventive methods tuberculosis can be quenched, and it was in the hope that at some time the money might be available for active preventive work in Ottawa that the experiment was tried. There is sufficient tuberculosis in and about the city to make the work imperative, if the disease is not allowed to spread unchecked.

At first the city could accommodate only the most advanced cases of tuberculosis. Then more was made for those with whom the disease had not made much progress. Now the great need is for a place where preventive work may be carried on in order to stamp out the plague as far as possible.

The experiment this summer was the beginning of what doctors and nurses hope will become part of the Sanatorium's work. The six children arrived in the many building set aside for them.

## PAINT IN SEPTEMBER



If you have any building that needs painting, now is the best time to do it, because at no other time of year are wood surfaces in better condition to receive paint, for the summer sun has dried it out thoroughly, and another thing—rough winter weather is coming along and your property should be protected with a good coat of paint. A small investment now will save expensive repairs and deterioration that is sure to result if your buildings are left to the mercies of the elements.

We shall be glad to help you choose good color combinations.

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Chokers—\$7.00, \$10.00, \$12.00, \$15.00, \$18.00, \$20.00, \$25.00—Mink, Skunk, Opossum. Stoles—\$75.00, \$85.00, \$100.00, \$125.00 to \$225.00, of Mole, Hudson Seal, and other furs. Scarves—\$15.00, \$25.00, \$35.00, \$40.00, \$50.00 to \$175.00, in many furs. Muskrat Coats—\$125.00, \$150.00 and to \$250.00. Hudson Seal Coats begin at \$350.00.

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