

# The Evening Times-Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 28, 1924

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## MR. JUSTICE CHANDLER

The late Mr. Justice Chandler was a member of a family prominently identified with the affairs of Westmorland County, and in his own career added to the distinction gained by others of the name. Nearly fifty years have passed since he began his legal career. In his most active years he was associated with the late Hon. Henry B. Baime. The latter went into politics, but Mr. Chandler, although taking an active interest in politics, devoted himself to his profession. He was an able lawyer and gained a high reputation in legal circles, and in due time his merits were recognized in his appointment to the Supreme Court Bench. He proved an able and fearless judge, and his passing is sincerely regretted in legal as well as those social circles where he was best known. The end came without warning. There was no thought of serious illness, and he had been out but a few days ago in apparent health. To his great number of old friends in Westmorland and adjoining counties the news of his death will come as a severe shock, and in the legal profession it is recognized that a man associated with the best traditions of bench and bar has gone to his rest.

## CITY GOVERNMENT

It may be worth while to get the substance of recent discussions in this city on the subject of city government reduced to a series of statements for ready reference.  
The most objectionable form of such government was that in American cities, where not only members of the city council but practically all of the city officials were elected every year. If a complete change were made, the result was ignorance and incompetence. If some or many were re-elected, the business of being re-elected, the more important than the conduct of civic affairs, the latter being related always to politics rather than efficiency. The result of the system was log-rolling, extravagance and incompetence. Those who clamor for "democracy" in civic affairs should ponder on the early American system and its results.

In Canada the system was better, because the officials were not elected, but held office permanently so long as their work was satisfactory. There was, however, the ward system of electing the city council, and it led to log-rolling and extravagance and "bossism."

In American cities the first great change was to the commission form of government, under which the affairs of many of them are still administered. The theory was that by electing a limited number of commissioners, each the head of a department, and each, with the possible exception of the Mayor, giving his whole time to the work, the affairs of the city would be conducted as an ordinary business with a board of directors is conducted. Dr. Brittain tells us that the chief weakness of the system is that the policy-forming body is also the administering body, and that therefore there is an absence of criticism. There is also the difficulty that the men elected as commissioners may either lack administrative ability or be steeped in the traditions of the old ward system, and that the business of being re-elected may concern them more than saving money for the city and giving it better service.

When this became apparent in some American cities they did not, however, go back to the old system, but forwarded to one promising better results. Thus came the council-manager system, where a city council of five is elected to serve without pay, or with only a trifling amount for expenses, and a high-salaried and expert city manager heads up the administrative work. The council formulates the policy and revises the budget, and the manager, with power to hire and discharge the members of his staff, is held responsible for the whole business administration. Under this plan the policy-forming and administrative departments are separated and the responsibility is fixed. Since the members of the council do not have to give up their whole time, there is a much wider field from which to choose, and the absence of a salary removes the incentive which operates under the commission plan. Of course it would be possible, if the citizens at large took no interest, to elect a designing council which would appoint a manager to serve its purposes, and so bring back the worst features of the bad old system.

This last consideration reveals the great essential in any form of good government, and that is the eternal vigilance of the people. The city of Waltham, Mass., furnishes a clear illustration. The enemies of the commission plan sought to destroy it by a plebiscite. Its friends, believing it safe, did not turn out to vote and it was defeated. Then they woke up, and when the civic elections were held they

elect the city manager as mayor, and so in a measure defeated the aims of the designing politicians.

We come now to consider the form of government in English cities. From the discussion in the Board of Trade last week it is clear that they have a form of city manager government. There is a city council, whose members are not paid, but are actuated, as Dr. Brittain says, by traditions of service to the state. The administrative work is done by the town clerk, although the city engineer has certain independent powers. The city council is much larger than appears to be necessary, although the larger number may tend to stimulate public interest. On this side, in actual experience, Dr. Brittain contends, a large council, as in Toronto, creates a tendency to play to the gallery. However, the English system is a modified manager system and produces excellent results. It is claimed that there would be greater difficulty in this country in getting men actuated by traditions of service to the state, but it is quite possible there are those who would cheerfully aid in establishing such traditions.

There remains the matter of getting qualified city managers. As Mr. W. F. Burditt has pointed out, the burgomaster in Germany is a trained city manager, and they go from city to city, from smaller to larger, rendering good service. In the United States some of the universities are giving courses in city-management, and there is already a City Managers' Association. Because they are comparatively new on this continent, Dr. Brittain says he would not like to see too rapid a change to the city manager system, since there would not at present be enough trained men to meet a sudden and great demand. In the case of St. John, which is a city of relatively small population, he believes a competent manager could be found without leaving the province. In his view and that of Mr. R. Fraser Armstrong, who has been a remarkably successful town manager, the English system is not as well adapted to Canadian cities as the council-manager plan, and they point to a number of admirably administered Canadian as well as American cities as proof of the value of the plan. It is quite possible that if St. John in course of time adopted the plan it might be improved, as each city must adapt its government to its needs.

With regard to democracy in civic affairs, that which best expresses the will of the people is the most democratic, and if they fix responsibility and keep themselves fully informed regarding the conduct of their affairs there is less danger of one-man government than under the "boss" system of ward politics which has been discarded. As to the suggestion that we should look to England rather than the United States or elsewhere, there is no sentiment in dollars, and it is with the people's dollars city councils have to do. That which is best administered is best for the community from whatever quarter the inspiration comes.

## A BETTER RUSSIA

Russian Soviet envoys are enroute to Canada in the interests of trade. That country has in reality abandoned Bolshevism, although its influence will be felt for a considerable period. A recent writer on Russia points out that the peasants were the destroyers of the ill-fated doctrine. After the revolution, when they found themselves unable to import the implements they required, and none were being manufactured in Russia, which in fact could not supply but the mere fraction of its own requirements, the peasants were facing starvation. With grim determination they set to work to make for themselves such tools as they could and to raise crops. Their co-operative societies continued to function in defiance of the Communists, who needed the towns and cities grew worse under Bolshevism, where industry was paralyzed and food scarce, the position of the peasants grew stronger and there was less interference with their operations. They were able to get artisans and teachers from the cities, who were glad to get away from starvation, and farm production steadily increased as manufactures on a small but steadily increasing scale for local use were developed. Moscow is not Russia. Communism has been beaten by the peasant millions and a new Russia is on the way. It is exporting food and importing manufactured goods. The philosophy of Lenin will not prevail. Sooner or later the peasants will take a hand in the game of politics, for they are the backbone of the country. They are accumulating property, and will not be turned from their purpose to follow the communistic will-o'-the-wisp. We hear daily of what is going on in Moscow, but only now and then does a keen observer come from the country beyond to tell of the great regeneration that has been quietly in progress

during the last few years. A new Russia is on the way. With that Russia, Canada in the years to come may have a very profitable trade, for it will be long before the foreigner can satisfy her own needs in manufactured goods.

## Press Comment

### THE MCINTOSH RED.

(Frederick Mail.)  
The McIntosh Red apple was recently pronounced by a committee of old country experts to be the finest dessert apple grown in the British Empire. The New Brunswick Department of Agriculture has taken steps to encourage the growth of this variety of apple by the farmers of New Brunswick and is now giving a bonus of twenty-five cents for every tree planted. Last season a sum in the vicinity of \$800 was paid out by the department for this purpose.

### FOREST RESOURCES

(London Times.)  
Canada would be able to supply her own needs and those of the United States, and, at the same time, to produce a large surplus for the requirements of the rest of the Empire. But that can only be if all the government's concerned determine to handle the problem with a deep and fruitful sense of its urgent importance. The Empire has, on the one hand, the opportunity of finding productive work for large numbers of its unemployed citizens, and of peopling large tracts of its empty spaces. On the other hand, if the opportunity is neglected, it must face the certainty that sooner or later—perhaps within a quarter of a century—its supplies of soft-wood timber will be exhausted.

### THE AGE OF ECONOMICS

(Vancouver Sun.)  
An able travelling correspondent on the staff of this newspaper writes: "Candidly, I don't believe the people are thinking today in political consciousness. Never have I found political ties so frail both East and West. The age of politics is passing and the age of economics is coming. Government is no longer a matter of theories. It has become an exact science, based on known economic law. The evolution of government has been exactly similar to the evolution of medicine. As late as 200 years ago, in civilized countries, 'physicians' would take the inmates of asylums, try them and pound them up into powders for their patients. They didn't know WHY they did it, but they knew it was the bottom. 'Oh, do tell me at once!' broke in his hearer. 'Where you saved?' 'I got a cake of soap and was washed ashore.'"

### INTERMEDIATES OF C. G. I. T. CONFER

The Intermediates of the C. G. I. T. members of this district held a successful conference Saturday night at the Y. W. C. A. Recreation Centre. Miss Marjorie Trotter, Maritime girls' secretary, gave a helpful address. The theme of the conference was "Following the Gleam." The addresses during the evening were given by Miss Helen Thompson in the chair when the opening ceremony from the Gleam Book was carried out. The girls then met in discussion groups while the leaders had a round table conference. Games were conducted by Miss G. Richards and were thoroughly enjoyed. The girls served supper. Ruth Day presided. The toastmaster, "Boasts to the 'Young Mariner' of various lands were proposed by Miss Marion MacLean, Miss Ruth Carvell, Miss Edith Lahey, Miss Helen Handren and Miss Eleanor McKim. The young masters of today were proposed by Miss Margaret Hayward. Miss Estelle Earle sang the solo "Follow the Gleam."

### WHAT WORE UP PHILADELPHIA.

(Mail and Empire.)  
In his series of muck-raking articles, that created a sensation some two years ago, Lincoln Steffens referred to Philadelphia as "corrupt and contented." Big-Gun, Butler's senseless crusade against the lawbreakers of the city indicates that the content at least has vanished. Only corruption of the most flagrant kind could have roused such a disciplined party man as Mayor Kendrick to disregard politics altogether while he attempted to clean up the city, and a sample of the kind of corruption that brought the notorious marine into the town is given in an issue of "Current History." Through the influence of the late Senator Penrose, Republican boss of Pennsylvania, a man named William McConnell was made chief prohibition enforcement officer of Philadelphia. His actions aroused the suspicions of T. Henry Walnut, an assistant district attorney, who put detectives to work, the result being that he informed the Department of Justice at Washington that he had proofs of a conspiracy that included McConnell. The department advised him to wait. At the next session of the Grand Jury he was ready to proceed, but again he was advised to wait. In his third trial he was advised to wait for the indictment of McConnell and forty-eight fellow conspirators. The reply to this letter was a demand for his resignation.

Public-spirited Philadelphians were enraged when they learned of this and made a formal request to the Attorney-General for the reasons why Walnut had been dismissed. The reply was that while he was an able officer against whom there had been no complaint he had been in office long enough. The case was closed, but another district attorney, using the Walnut information, secured an indictment against McConnell and his forty-eight fellow conspirators. The reply to this letter was a demand for his resignation.

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## SOMETIMES I WONDER IF YOU KNEW.

(Elizabeth Scollard.)  
Sometimes I wonder if you know  
That every little word  
You said would come to sting to me  
As might a bird.  
And did you think the road we took  
Across the yesterday  
Would wind forever through my heart  
That selfsame way?

## Each time you smiled did you suppose

When sunlight touched the blue  
I should look up in after years  
And think of you?  
I may not ask, you cannot tell.  
But every passing hour  
I see your image springing up  
Fair as a flower.

## LIGHTER VEIN.

### Saving Percival.

When little Percival arrived at school on the opening day, he carried the following note to the teacher:  
"Dear Teacher, our sweet little Percival is a very delicate, nervous child, and if he is naughty and he is likely to be naughty at times—just punish the boy next to him, and that will frighten him so he'll be good."

### Practical Religion.

Contrary to the usual exception at a christening, the infant was as quiet as a lamb. Instead of yelling when it felt the water, it smiled cheerfully in the canoe's face. Afterwards he said to the mother:  
"Madam, I must congratulate you on the little one's behavior. I have never before christened a child that has behaved as well as yours."

### The Old Salt's Joke.

"Good morning, Mr. Salt!" said the sweet young thing as she tripped down the beach and finally came to rest on the side of a rowing boat. "Do tell me some more about your adventures at sea."

### Old Salt's Joke.

"Would you like to me, miss?" asked the old chap, rather flattered to find someone interested in his stories of his youth—which, to do him justice, were at any rate founded on fact.

### And then, he said, "Your ship, with its cargo of soap, went to the bottom."

"Oh, do tell me at once!" broke in his hearer. "Where you saved?" "I got a cake of soap and was washed ashore."

## LOCAL MINISTERS EXCHANGE PULPITS

Rev. Fred T. Bertram, pastor of Carleton Methodist church, exchanged pulpits with Rev. Robert G. Fulton, of Centenary church, yesterday morning. The subject of Mr. Bertram's sermon was "The Fulness of God." Mrs. L. M. Curran sang a hymn, J. Bending, of Toronto, was again in the choir and played the organ for the last hymn and the postlude.  
Rev. Mr. Fulton preached at the evening service, taking for his subject "The Woman of Samaria and Her Conversation With Our Lord." Several of the social service problems to be discussed at the convention here this week were taken up by the speaker. Mrs. Curran sang Mendelssohn's "No for the Wings of a Dove."  
The large church was very different to heat yesterday, more than two tons of coal being consumed.

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## FORMER YORK CO. MAN IS IN CHARGE

### Dr. J. W. MacNeill Superintendent of North Battleford Hospital.

The following article, taken from the November Bulletin of the Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene, has reference to the Mental Hospital at North Battleford, which is in charge of Dr. J. W. MacNeill, a former York County physician.

Canada can well be proud of many of its public institutions for the insane. At the present time, approximately 20,000 patients are receiving attention in our mental hospitals, and we owe a debt of gratitude to medical men, nurses and attendants who are devoting their lives to the care of this large army of afflicted people.

To those who have never visited a mental hospital, but who are under the impression that an asylum is a place of noise and disorder, a sojourn to the Saskatchewan Mental Hospital at North Battleford would prove a surprise and revelation. In all probability, such a visitor would be so favorably impressed that he would agree with the statement of an individual who went to Battleford last June. This person remarked that he would rather be "put up" in the hospital than be the guest at a first-class hotel.

The Battleford institution is beautifully situated on high land overlooking a river. It has picturesque winding driveways, tennis courts, golf links and on every hand there are flowers, shrubs and well-kept gardens. The buildings are modern, and an atmosphere of comfort and restfulness pervades the institution. From the mental hygiene standpoint, Battleford excels in the Division of Occupation Therapy. Under the intelligent and energetic guidance of the superintendent, Dr. J. W. MacNeill, and of Miss Hazel Jacques, this department of occupational work is becoming justly famous throughout the Dominion.

Over 90 per cent. of the 640 patients in the institution are given occupational training. Some are in sewing, needlework, rug-making, tailoring, shoemaking, book-binding, paper work, toy-making, mattress-making and tanning. During the past year, seven thousand dollars were realized from the sale of the products of the occupational shops and every cent was spent in making the hospital more attractive and homelike. The profits were used to buy rugs for the floors, chintzes for the windows, vases, billiard tables and singing birds for the wards.

As an instrument for treatment, occupation has proven its worth at Battleford. Mental deterioration has been checked, and recovery hastened in many cases. It is a sight never to be forgotten to see a Haight Class of mental patients who, because of their condition, have slumped to a low level of mental activity. These patients are first taught to march to music. They sit on the floor, and then they progress to more difficult activities, and many graduate from one class to another. They are finally found producing genuine works of art.

The case of one woman is illustrative of the splendid work that is being accomplished at Battleford. Four years ago, this Scandinavian woman, aged 45 years of age, was admitted to the hospital. She sat around the ward with her hands folded, was untidy and took no apparent interest in her surroundings. She was placed in a marching class.

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