

The Evening Times-Star

Results Here

The Times' condensed ad. page offers a wonderful opportunity to landlords seeking to rent houses and tenants looking for locations.

Do You Know

The St. John Court House, so much the subject of controversy since fire wrecked its interior, was built in 1827.

VOL. XX., No. 108 PAGES ONE TO EIGHT

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1924

SIXTEEN PAGES—ONE CENT

St. John Business Men Oppose Boost In Express Rates  
TORNADO SWEEPS WESTERN STATES

MERCHANTS OPPOSED TO RATES' RISE

Vigorous Protest is Made Against Boost in Present Express Rates.

CARVELL IN CHAIR

General Impression is That Increase Will Curb Business in East.

A vigorous protest against increase in present express rates was voiced by business men of St. John before the Board of Railway Commissioners this morning. The suggestion was made by several that if the rates were lowered instead of increased, the volume of business would be able to make money and the general public benefit by the lower rates as merchants would be able to sell at a lower price.

The chairman of the Board, Hon. F. B. Carvell, stated that all phases of the matter would be carefully gone into before any decision was arrived at, and that if anything came up at the next session in Ottawa to warrant further witnesses being called from the different parts of the country, this would be done. He also stated that he did not think that some commodities should have the rate increased, and named fish, milk and cream as examples of these. In connection with the fish he said that this was one of the principal commodities of the Maritime Provinces and the rates should not shut it out of the Upper Canadian market.

Carvell in Chair

Hon. F. B. Carvell presided and Messrs. C. Lawrence and Hon. Frank Oliver were the other members of the board present, with H. Richardson, secretary. F. H. Phippin acted as counsel for the Express Traffic Association. Others present for the express companies were C. N. Ham, president of the Express Traffic Association; T. E. McDonnell, W. H. Burr, F. W. Branscombe, J. R. Haycock, Dominion Express Co.; C. A. Hayes, W. C. Muir, G. E. Bellerose, F. N. Wiggins, Canadian National Express Co.; E. B. Lloyd, C. P. R.; and E. P. Mallory, C. N. E.

The Equity Court room, in which the hearing was held, was filled to capacity with interested citizens, several of whom gave evidence. During the hearing Hon. Mr. Carvell paid his respects to the middleman in the fish business. He declared he was responsible for the price of this commodity in Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto.

The first to be heard was Mr. Phippin, who stated that the Express Traffic Association was asking that a basis of rates be established which would make it unnecessary for the express companies to make a separate application from the railway companies and they suggested that this base rate be two and one-half times that of the first class freight rate.

Sufficient Revenue

The second class rate they wished fixed at 80 per cent of the first class rate. These rates they figured would give the express companies sufficient revenue to pay 8 per cent on their capital, plus 2 per cent for reserve and pay their way.

F. W. Rosch was the first speaker for the local men. He said this information given by Mr. Phippin was new to him. He was there as a member of the Board of Trade and the fish and wholesale committees of that body had drawn up a brief which would be read by R. E. Armstrong. He pointed out that in his own business the express rates had increased to such an extent that they had been forced to use parcel post and freight, having almost doubled since 1918. He was of the opinion that a reduction in the rates would bring more business to the express companies and enable them to make money.

New Scheme To Get Free Meals

Boston, Feb. 6.—A new scheme for obtaining free food has been worked in Wintrop and Chelsea during the last few days by a teamster and his small helper. They enter a small luncheon room and order a good meal. When the helper has finished the teamster says: "Run out and hold the horse, he's acting balky, I'll pay the check." When the teamster has finished, or nearly so, there is a shout from the street of "help, help, he's running away."

"I'll be back in a minute, must stop my horse," shouts the teamster as he rushes out and pursues the team down the street a short distance where the boy stops it and they drive off. At least three restaurant keepers have reported being victimized.

MAY NOMINATE PEERS FOR LIFE

British Premier Considers Plan—Ones Just Named Have No Male Heirs.

London, Feb. 6.—(Canadian Press Cable)—Discussing Premier MacDonald's creation of peerages in order to give his party spokesmen in the House of Lords, the London Star remarks that the new peers happen to have no male heirs, and wonders therefore if the present would not be a favorable time to try the experiment of creating life peerages.

The Star also suggests that an even more simple way would be to give every minister the right to address either house. As already announced by the Canadian Press, Premier MacDonald is considering the question of the creation of life peerages which at present he bestowed only upon law lords and certain bishops. Whether the Premier will proceed with such a scheme, depends upon general developments, especially with regard to the probable duration of the present ministry.

BABE DEAD IN FIRE

Mother, in Heroic Effort to Rescue Found Unconscious Beside Child.

Quebec, Feb. 6.—A baby girl named Jacqueline Blouin lost her life last night in a fire at Champlain Place, which threatened the lives of a large number of tenants. Mrs. Blouin had brought one of her children to safety and had returned to the blazing house for the infant when the dense smoke overpowered her. She succeeded in reaching the child but was unable to carry her out to the street. The mother was found unconscious some time afterwards with the dead child lying beside her. The poignancy of the discovery lies in the fact that it was made by Police Sgt. Jeffries, a brother of Mrs. Blouin.

Wire Briefs

Parsboro, Feb. 6.—Lank and Tyrrell's lumber mill at Canaan, near here, was destroyed by fire last night. He recently arrived from Toronto for a visit.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 6.—Wm. Blake, K. C., son of the late Hon. Samuel Hugh Blake, dropped dead yesterday on the Colwood Golf Club links. He recently arrived from Toronto for a visit.

Toronto, Feb. 6.—Abolition of the death sentence probably will be among the first reforms attempted by the Labor Government, according to a London cable to the Mail and Empire.

Washington, Feb. 6.—A twenty-five per cent. reduction in all personal income taxes payable this year was approved yesterday by Republicans of the House Ways and Means Committee.

London, Feb. 6.—Affirming that Russia and Germany ought to enter the League of Nations, Premier MacDonald says that there would be difficulty in the case of Russia, but that Germany's inclusion must be insisted upon.

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 6.—A grain control board which will have charge of the port's grain trade and will expedite the loading of ships and the general despatch of grain through the port was formed here yesterday.

New Glasgow, Feb. 6.—Fire breaking out about half past one this morning destroyed the wooden building corner of Forbes and Archimedes streets owned by Harry McDougall and occupied by T. A. O'Brien, meat dealer. There was \$7,000 insurance on the building and \$500 on the stock.

41 MINERS KILLED IN WATER TRAP

Collapse of Part of Bottom of Swamp Lake Cause of Tragedy.

NO WARNING GIVEN

Thirty-four of the Mine Victims are Men With Families.

(By Canadian Press.)

Crosby, Minn., Feb. 6.—Collapse of part of the bottom of a swamp lake sent a torrent of water into the Milford Iron Mine near here late yesterday and snuffed out the lives of forty-one miners caught like rats in a trap. More than 100 feet underground the 48 miners were working when, with hardly a warning, water burst through the roof, flooding the mine within fifteen minutes to within a few feet of the top of the shaft.

Alarmed at the first rumblings as the earthen roof and timbers gave way, seven miners near the shaft darted up the stairs to safety, but their 41 comrades, caught in the muddy, swirling waters met almost instantaneous death. Only seven survivors.

The first check up last night indicated that of the normal crew of fifty-five men, 49 had been in the workings, but the final figures announced early today by company officials put the number at 48 and the death toll at 41, with seven survivors.

The high-powered electric pumps, rushed here from Duluth, were pumping water from the muddy lake and the mine today, and mining experts said the workings and the lake bed must be emptied before it would be possible to remove the bodies.

Water from the mine is being pumped into Island Lake, a quarter of a mile away. Between this lake and the mine shaft lies the mud lake, whose water penetrated the mine workings, causing the worst mining disaster in the history of the Minnesota Iron Range.

Passage to Roof

Mining experts said today that the drift of the Milford Mine, which is on the Cuyuna Range and produces manganese ore, did not extend under the lake as they believe the water had worked a subterranean passage to the top of the mine and the pressure finally crushed in the roof.

The pumps at work now are drawing out the water at a rate of 12,000 gallons a minute, and experienced miners say it may require weeks, perhaps months to free the imprisoned bodies.

Organizations of the villages hereabouts and the American Red Cross have taken toward the work of ministering to the needs of the widows and orphans of the victims and everything possible, leaders say, is being done for their comfort.

Thirty-four Are Married.

The victims ranged in age from 23 to 55 years. Thirty-four of them were married and had families. Grief-stricken relatives thronged around the mine shaft until an early hour today, and then realizing that there was no hope that they believed once might be alive, sorrowfully returned to their homes.

Enui Kainu, the last survivor to leave the workings, told today how six other miners might have escaped had they promptly heeded his warning to flee. He was working the pump at the bottom of the 200-foot shaft when the crash came. When his power failed, his long experience told him he was in danger, he said.

Rushing toward the inner workings, Kainu heard a roar and discerned a wall of water rushing toward him. Instantly he whirled, dashing back toward the stairs, meanwhile calling to six other men, warning them of the danger. They said something about "waiting for the cage," Kainu said. The skip was then at the top of the shaft.

As Kainu rapidly mounted the stairs he saw the other men caught in an engulfing wall and swept away to their deaths. Just ahead of Kainu six other men had mounted the stairs and as they fled to the top the rising water almost licked their heels, so rapid was its upward progress.

LIQUOR IS CHEAPER

Halifax Inspector Says Montreal Price More Than Met in N. S. Capital.

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 6.—Chief Liquor Inspector E. S. Tracey, appearing before the finance committee of the City Council yesterday, declared that liquor could be purchased in Halifax more cheaply than in Montreal because, he said, Halifax liquor was mainly smuggled in, whereas in Montreal the duty was paid.

Lioness Kills Aged "Super" in Movies

Rome, Feb. 6.—An enraged lioness yesterday tore and mauled to death an aged Italian, Augusto Palombi, a "super" in a moving picture company, filming Quo Vadis. The enraged lioness leaped back the queen of the jungle into her place inside the arena, but was able to accomplish this only after they had killed her several times with revolver shots.

Actors and actresses, directors, camera men and "extras" fled in terror. The keepers of the lions retained their presence of mind and endeavored to break back the queen of the jungle into her place inside the arena, but were able to accomplish this only after they had killed her several times with revolver shots.

OTTAWA IS MAKING MUCH OF WEDDING

Nuptials of Prince of Denmark and Miss Booth on Next Monday.

Ottawa, Feb. 6.—One of the most interesting social functions witnessed here in years will be the wedding of Miss Lois Frances Booth of Ottawa to His Royal Highness Prince Erik of Denmark, on next Monday. The bride will represent the King of Denmark, who is his brother.

The matron of honor will be Mrs. W. D. Herridge, sister of the bride. The bridesmaids will be Lady Elizabeth and Lady Mary Byng, daughters of the Earl of Strathford, Miss Marjorie Cook and Miss Betty Henderson. Prince Viggo of Denmark will probably be best man. The bride will be given away by her father, F. Fred Booth, who is a son of Canada's best lumber dealer, and an Ottawa pioneer.

Numerous social functions are taking place in Ottawa this week in honor of the marriage. At Rideau Hall, and at Mrs. J. Fred Booth's home, formal dinners have been arranged to introduce the groom and his father to Canadian society.

AGREEMENT ON TRADE IS SOUGHT

Australian Delegates Are in Ottawa Confering With Ministers.

Ottawa, Feb. 6.—(Canadian Press).—Conferences which may result in a trade agreement between Canada and Australia opened here today. The Australian representatives, Senator Wilson and Major Oakley, chairman of the Australian tariff board, arrived in Ottawa yesterday. Today they met Hon. James A. Robb, acting Minister of Finance, and Hon. T. A. Low, Minister of Trade and Commerce, who are acting for Canada in the negotiations. Tonight the Australians will leave for Toronto.

QUIT VERA CRUZ

Evacuation of Chief Rebel Stronghold City is Announced at Mexico City.

Mexico City, Feb. 6.—Evacuation of Vera Cruz, chief rebel stronghold and flight by steamer of Gen. De La Huerta and other revolutionary leaders to an unknown destination, is officially confirmed in a statement issued by the war department.

Washington, Feb. 6.—The "entire evacuation" of Vera Cruz by De La Huerta insurgents against the Oregon Government of Mexico has been peacefully effected, and that city today is again under control of its regular civilian authorities.

CUTS STAFF TO 14

Ontario Public Works and Highways Minister Lets 51 Engineers Go.

Toronto, Feb. 6.—Hon. George Henry, Minister of Public Works and Highways, has completed his reorganization of the engineering services of the Highway Department. Some time ago the resignation of the 51 engineers in the department were received. They have now been replaced by 14 engineers. Fifty-one engineers will not be required for future work. George Hogarth remains as chief engineer.

EPIDEMIC OF FLU SWEEPS ENGLAND

Serious Type Assumes Largest Proportions in London and Near Areas.

MANY SUFFERING

Prominent Men on the Sick List as Disease Shows an Increase.

BY HARRY N. MOORE  
British United Press.

London, Feb. 6.—An epidemic of influenza of the most serious type is fast assuming alarming proportions in London and surrounding areas. The West London coroner yesterday investigated three cases of deaths resulting from pneumonia following neglect of the patients to take treatment for influenza.

Many business firms and the public offices are suffering through the depletion of their staffs while the number of prominent men afflicted by the epidemic increases and today includes Judges Astbury and Lawrence.

GRIPPE LAYS OUT WHOLE COMMISSION

Prince of Wales Chosen to Preside, but Members Are All in Bed.

London, Feb. 6.—Influenza has stretched on its back an entire royal commission, and by the irony of fate one of the oldest.

Appointed in 1851 in the first flush of the success of the exhibition in Hyde Park, the commission thus stands as older than influenza itself, which, as a separate diagnosis of cold, dates from 1857 or thereabouts.

The great glass house of Hyde Park became the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, and this again in 1920 was acquired as the property of the nation. The commission, however, pursues its fate as custodians of the parties interested in national treasures there.

Armstrong was discharged from the army late in 1918, after nine months in hospital as a result of having part of the muscles of his chest and left arm torn away by shrapnel. Pension was paid for six months, when, upon re-examination, he was given \$100 as a final payment. Armstrong found himself handicapped in securing employment, but succeeded fairly well until recently, when illness in his family precipitated a crisis.

He came to Ottawa and appealed to Dominion headquarters of the G. W. V. A. Medical evidence was secured and arrangements made with Dr. R. J. Kee, chief medical adviser to the pension board for a special medical board. This board unanimously recommended re-attestation of pension at 10 per cent, and retroactive to January 1, 1919.

Armstrong returned to Toronto today with a check covering part of the back payment of pension. With the allowance for wife and family the total back payment will be nearly \$500. Representatives of the G. W. V. A. expressed their gratitude to Dr. Kee for his prompt action. Dr. Kee recently assumed the duties of chief medical adviser to the pensions board.

Again Heads Red Cross Society in N. S.

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 6.—J. L. Hetherington was re-elected president of the Nova Scotia Red Cross Society at the annual meeting last night. Vice-presidents are Colonel Gordon S. Harrington, Sydney; Rev. R. L. MacDonald, St. Peter's; Mrs. P. M. Fielding, Windsor; Dr. J. J. Cameron, Antigonish; Dr. F. E. Woodbury and Mrs. J. A. Marshall, Halifax; and Mrs. J. A. Hanway, Amherst. Hon. MacCallum Grant, Lieutenant Governor, is honorary president, and Mrs. William Dennis, honorary vice-president.

They All Agree



Look at this picture and you'll not wonder that Miss Jean Shields has been awarded first prize in five beauty contests. Her last victory, in Cincinnati, carries with it a trip to the orient with a two-week visit at Honolulu. Miss Shields, winning the Cincinnati contest, she was judged the most beautiful girl in Kansas City, Mo.

Workmen Find Old Stone Well On Site of New St. John Hotel

Another reminder of old days in St. John, the second phase of settlement life after the Loyalist landing, was brought to light on the site of the grocery-store building of the Dufferin group recently torn down. It is a stone-built well, which seems at present to be filled up with rubbish, but which at its depth may yet show signs of usefulness.

Similar wells used to mark all old properties in the city before the days of waterworks. King Square and vicinity was especially prolific in them. In fact there used to be wells in this location at which water was sold for a half-penny a pail. A well situated in the triangle of the Square leading to the Dufferin corner caved in several years ago, which disclosure elicited a lot of historical gossip.

It is presumed the new hotel on the Dufferin site will be protected against water troubles same as the Mount Royal Hotel in Montreal, which has its own artesian flow. This is harnessed for house supply and fire emergencies as well. In fact every modern utility and facility is being incorporated into these newest type of public house and it is not unlikely the natural flow of water in this King Square vicinity will be diverted into useful channels when the foundation builders begin their moulding.

When the Imperial was built, several tannery yards were uncovered with the tanning fluid still in them, and a skin was fished out, eight-two years in pickle, as it were. This historic skin decorates the management's office. So rich is the south side of King Square in spring-water that the Imperial keeps two electric automatic pumps at work constantly welling it up in concrete catch-tanks and pumping it to sewer level.

WOULD EXTRADITE TORONTO BROKER

Wills' Lawyer Resists; Says Client is Being Made Goat in Proceedings.

Toronto, Feb. 6.—An extradition warrant issued at the instance of District Attorney O'Brien of Boston was served yesterday on Hamilton B. Wills, a Toronto mining broker, who was indicted in Boston some months ago with several others on a charge of conspiracy to defraud the stockholders of the Boston and Montana Copper Company. Mr. Wills refused a stroke last fall and, according to his physicians, it is now able to appear in the Boston courts. In any event, extradition will be resisted, as it is contended by his lawyer that Mr. Wills is being made "the goat" in the proceedings.

McGraw Gets Old Famous Battery

New York, Feb. 6.—"Iron Man" Joe McGinnity and Roger Bresnahan, famous battery of the New York Giants 20 years ago, will rejoin Manager McGraw's team. It is reported that McGinnity is a pitching scout and Bresnahan a scout.

New York Enters Pro Hockey League

New York, Feb. 6.—Negotiations to bring New York into an international professional hockey league have been successfully concluded, according to an announcement here. Details of the transaction will be completed on Friday of next week. Agreements were closed at a conference Monday attended by Tex Rickard and Tom Duggan of Montreal.

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS GO IN HURRICANE

Telephone and Telegraph Wires Razed and Details Meare.

CITIES CUT OFF

Northeastern Ontario is Severely Hit by Storm—Lumbering Halted.

(By Canadian Press.)

New York, Feb. 5.—A storm of rain, snow and sleet with a wind which in some places attained the violence of a tornado, swept the Middle Western States last night and today, according to meagre reports received here. Telephone and telegraph wires were razed and through sections were tied up completely and damage estimated at millions of dollars was done.

Chicago and Milwaukee were practically cut off from communication with New York late tonight and only the most urgent matter was accepted by telegraph companies who routed it south and north into the storm territory. There was a heavy drop in temperature at all western points. The death of three persons was attributed to the storm.

Telephone Lines Broken

The storm extended south and southwest from Chicago through Illinois, Missouri and as far south as Texas. Eastern states received the force of the tail end of the bad weather. Temperatures were low over the greater part of the east and rain and snow fell extensively. Most telegraph and telephone lines continued service while transportation was only slightly disrupted. At Ogdensburg, N. Y., however, it was reported that a train was stalled in six-foot drifts of snow.

Ontario Storm Severe

Toronto, Feb. 6.—Northern Ontario was severely hit by yesterday's storm. Lumbering operations are being handicapped. There is said to be from three to six feet of snow in a coating of ice, marked the weather in the Niagara district. Two years ago ice storms were followed by a bumper peach crop and a very heavy yield in other fruits, due to the ice practically wiping out the San Jose scale. Growers are hopeful of the same results from yesterday's storm.

Says Virgin Birth Insult to Women

(British United Press.)  
New York, Feb. 6.—"The Virgin Birth and the Immaculate Conception are a direct insult in the face of every woman in the world," Dr. Percy Stickney Grant, pastor of the Church of the Ascension, declared in a sermon at the Temple Beth Emet Tuesday night.

"I want my religion full of facts. There is not enough materialism in our religion today."

Assists Rich Men Enter Into Heaven

(British United Press.)  
Kirkintoloch, Scotland, Feb. 6.—The reason the British Labor Party wants a capital levy is to help the nation's rich men get into the Kingdom of Heaven, Bob Smillie, Miners leader, declared in the course of a speech here.

Courtesy Brings Bank Man Legacy

Bristol, Eng., Feb. 6.—Leaving \$15,000, Eliza Glass of two Bristol tobacco firms bearing her name, left \$3,000 to William Edwin Webb, a Bath bank manager, "as a token of gratitude for his unflinching courtesy to me at all times and to repay him for all the trouble I have given him in my business affairs."

Weather Report  
Forecasts:  
Maritime—Strong northeast winds, or gales with snow and sleet. Thursday cloudy with light local snow or sleet.  
Gulf and North Shore—Strong northeast winds, cloudy, snow in western districts tonight and tomorrow.  
New England—Cloudy tonight and Thursday, possibly local snows tonight; colder tomorrow; fresh westerly winds.  
Toronto, Feb. 6.—Temperatures:  
Highest Lowest  
Yesterday—during  
8 a.m. day night  
Victoria . . . . .40 50 40  
Kamloops . . . . .34 42 30  
Calgary . . . . .26 48 24  
Edmonton . . . . .8 30 8  
Winnipeg . . . . .14 0 \*16  
Montreal . . . . .14 12 12  
St. John . . . . .18 18 13  
Halifax . . . . .18 28 16  
Detroit . . . . .26 36 26  
New York . . . . .26 36 32  
\*Below zero.