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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1920

The Evening Times and Star

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VANCOUVER AND ST. JOHN

Another illustration of how Hon. Mr. Ballantyne gained the approval of the people of Vancouver by "identifying himself with the aspirations and purposes of the citizens concerning the future of the port" has come to hand. The Vancouver province, from which the words quoted are taken, delivers a eulogy of the minister, in connection with statements he made concerning the Pacific port and his policy in regard thereto, and concludes as follows:—

"It is true that Mr. Ballantyne's statements are strengthened by the fact that he produces something more than words. Some contracts are already made. The way has been opened to others. The programme is taking definite form. The minister has fully impressed the people with the assurance that whatever may be his policy in regard to other national questions an essential and positive feature is the organization and development of the port of Vancouver as one of the national seaports of Canada."

The people of Vancouver are to be congratulated on the deep interest the minister is taking in the development of their port, and also on the fact that the traffic of the port is not to be burdened with such heavy interest and sinking fund charges as harbor commission would impose upon St. John.

PREMIER TASCHEREAU.

Premier Taschereau of Quebec, as the spokesman of his province, in his address to the Imperial Press delegates, voiced the devotion of the people to the Empire. He was able to tell of splendid service done by Quebec in aiding to save Canada to the Empire in the early days, and of not less notable service in the cause of responsible government. Mr. Taschereau applauded the remark of Sir George Toulmin that the bonds of empire must be strengthened, not through uniformity but through unity, and dwelt upon the value of national traditions, which in the case of Quebec were a safeguard against annexation to the United States and an assurance of the permanence in Canada of British institutions.

One significant statement made by the Quebec premier must impress the people of other provinces as well as the visitors from overseas. It was that whereas five years ago Quebec had 10,000,000 acres under cultivation it reaches this year 15,000,000 acres. Rural population in Quebec does not decrease, but is steadily growing. It is also to be noted, however, that there is great industrial expansion in the province, and one of the reasons is the stability of labor. Indeed Quebec in this respect is held up as an example not only to the rest of the province but to the United States. It is not therefore as a community in need that Quebec is to be approached by those who plead for better racial feeling and more cordial co-operation, but as one which holds its head high and cherishes its traditions as fondly as any other of the older provinces. The only basis of assured and permanent good feeling, therefore, is a recognition of what Quebec is and has done, and may yet do in line with her traditions as a great factor in the development of the national life of Canada and the unity of the Empire. The Imperial Press delegates must have been strongly and favorably impressed by the statesmanlike utterance of Premier Taschereau.

MR. ROBERT SMILLIE.

Mr. Robert Smillie, the English labor agitator, sees in himself the regenerator of the world. By bringing about simultaneous strikes in Great Britain, the United States and elsewhere he would bring the British government to its knees and exalt himself as the dictator. He appears to have been studying Lenin and Trotsky, those eminent regenerators who have set their heels on the neck of Russia. Mr. Smillie, however, has to deal, not with an utterly illiterate peasantry, but with the hard common sense of the English people. They will not consent to depart from the principle of government by the people and replace it with government by a miners' union. He essays too much. It may be that there are dark days immediately ahead of the English people because they have been so tolerant of Bolshevism in their midst, but they will not be carried off their feet by anarchistic appeals. If the government must face a serious crisis it will have behind it the solid sentiment of a people who believe in constitutional methods of reform. The present phase of madness will pass, and with it the narrow-visioned leaders who have deceived themselves into a belief that class government is the panacea for national ills, or that all the cherished traditions of a free people should give way to the will of the mob. The moment ordered government in industry or the state gives place to the caprice of the mob there is an end of progress. Wrongs there may be, and inequalities which should be removed, but the way to accomplish needed changes was discovered when a free ballot was given to the people. The appeal, however, must be to all the people and not to a minority. The weakness of Mr. Robert Smillie's case is that he wants minority rule. His cause is doomed to failure because it is not the cause of the whole people and because the adoption of his methods would put an end to ordered government based on the popular will.

THE TARIFF.

It will not be the fault of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association if the Canadian tariff is not made even higher than it is. Some other countries have increased their tariffs, and this, in the opinion of the manufacturers, is an example for Canada. They are not unmindful of the fact that where there is a stiff tariff and the price of domestic goods can be pushed up just to the point where it will meet foreign competition there are snug profits to be divided. The consumer, of course, is expected to provide these profits for the manufacturer lest the factories should close and hard times result. That the Canadian manufacturer should be able to compete in his own market is of course not absurd for a moment's consideration. The arch enemy of the country is the American manufacturer, who is hovering just south of the border awaiting an opportunity to force up the shutters of Canadian industries. All this has a very familiar ring. The Canadian manufacturers are intensely patriotic when the tariff is in danger. If they were as careful not to squeeze out of the consumer the last dollar the tariff permits their protestations would be received with less skepticism. There is also an artful suggestion that the only alternative to a high tariff is free trade, and that this is the goal of the tariff reductionists. The purpose of this suggestion is plain. It is intended to deceive. Happily the people are stupid. They know what the manufacturers want, and realize that to give them all they want would be to increase the crop of millionaires at the expense of the consumers of the country.

"Adequate protection" means as high a tariff as those interested can persuade the country to adopt. Adequate protection for the consumer is quite another matter, and the people are waking up to the fact that it was never more needed in Canada than at the present time. The tariff will be a leading issue in the next general elections, and readers of the press should follow the discussions before the tariff commission with the keenest interest.

In Italy the industrial dispute is likely to be settled by a compromise which will carry important concessions for the workmen. The moderates among them have won the day and paved the way for negotiations, unless the radical element should prove wholly untractable. The government which had remained almost passive eventually wanted the workmen that if they went to greater extremes it would mean intervention and bloodshed, and the warning seems to have had a salutary effect upon the majority. One of the leaders of the workmen probably told them that the Russian system would not flourish on the soil of Italy. It seems clear, however, that the position of the workmen will be vastly strengthened.

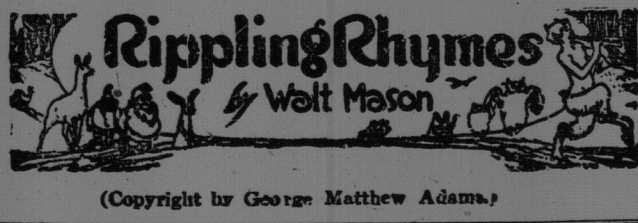
The French premier says that France, Italy and England are agreed on the fundamental principles of the proper attitude toward the Soviet government and minor variations in policy are due to different internal conditions in the respective countries. He is sure neither of them has any desire to encourage Bolshevism. This is undoubtedly a correct statement of the case. There are those who for the purpose of creating Bolshevism would magnify slight differences into grave disagreements, but the nations which united to crush one form of autocracy will not be eager to contribute to the triumph of another. Nor would closer economic and political relations between France and Italy militate against England.

The slight decline in the cost of living which has taken place in the last month or two is to some extent offset by the increase in freight rates, which will be passed on to the consumer. There is no apparent prospect of an appeal from the decision of the Railway Board in regard to rates resulting in any change. This is the opinion expressed in Ottawa correspondence to the press.

The heavy loss in potatoes and grain caused by the recent rains in this province will reduce the profits of individual farmers in many sections to a considerable extent. This is another illustration of the uncertainty attending farming operations. A few weeks ago the outlook was exceptionally bright. Happily for the general consumer the aggregate of crops, however, will still be fairly large.

In October Manitoba and Saskatchewan will vote on the question of liquor importation. It is said there is little general interest, probably because the liquor interests feel that their case is hopeless. They probably believe with Gov. Cox that the liquor traffic is as dead as slavery, so far as any hope of restoring it is concerned.

La Presse wants to know in regard to attraction at exhibitions, something really amusing cannot take the place of buffooneries. It may be further asked why the fakirs should not be replaced by features quite as entertaining but much less objectionable.



Rippling Rhymes

DEMPSEY

Jack Dempsey will battle 'em all, the short and the fat and the tall; he'll meet any chap who's intent on a scrap, and plaster him over the wall. Oh long have we yearned for a champ who'd fight at the wink of a lamp and it's been a long day, I am prompted to say, since we had a good boy of that stamp; But Dempsey, he rather would fight, than go to a lecture at night; he has no excuse when he's asked to produce "invincible left" or the right. I hope in some bright coming year the prize ring will quite disappear; outworn and outlived it will rest 'neath the sod, and no one will hand it a tear. But while it's a human device I think that the pugs should cut ice, and put up a mill with a hearty good will when anyone offers the price. So Dempsey's a solace to me; I watch all his motions with glee; a fighter who'll fight is a joy to the sight, whatever his conditions may be!

CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Domestic Happenings of Other Days

A HALIFAX PRIVATEER.

In the late days of the fall of 1756 a privateer was being fitted out at Halifax for service against the French for war between the English and that nation had been declared about six months previously. Robert Sanderson and Malachy Salter, two merchants of the pioneer city, had obtained permission to fit out and send to sea a 100 ton craft to prey on French shipping. The craft was called the Lawrence. She was fitted for a six months cruise when she cleared for sea on November 16, 1756. She carried a crew of about 100 men who had as armament on the frigate fourteen small xarionades, and twenty swivel guns. Her skipper was Captain John Ross who had been a right hand helper of the English in all their fighting along the maritime coast.

The career of the privateer from November until the following March is not known but at that time she was at the Bermuda repairing. When she sailed again it was to the north where in a day or two she encountered a strange ship at sea. As the vessel did not answer her shot and heave to, a shot was put into it and the main mast brought down. Then it was discovered that it was a British vessel and says the chronicler "there was much language." On the voyage north the vessel ran into terrible weather which almost stripped the rigging and split the craft. It was only by putting the guns off the bar and taking extreme precautions that the vessel was kept afloat or off the rocks. But the gale was hardly over when the vessel encountered a French dloop and ordered it to surrender. After a sharp encounter the French craft fled from the battle and the weather beaten vessel was put into the harbor of St. John's, where it arrived on April 23, 1757 safe, but with, as far as is known, no captures to its credit as a result of the six months of sailing.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Not Fussy.

"So you have accepted him? Are you sure he is the sort of a man you want for a husband?"

"Yes, mother. The sort of a man I want for a husband is the one I can get."

Used to Change.

"Is it true Smith's wife has left him?"

"Yes, my dear. But what can you expect? She was a cook before he married her."—Passing Show.

Impossible.

Photographer (busy pressing client before camera). "Yes, increased wages and the high cost of material have enabled me to raise the price of pictures 100 per cent. Now, will you please look a little pleasant?"—Houston Post.

They All Are.

"She says she has an ideal husband." "How long have they been married?"

"Three weeks." "Shucks, all husbands are ideal for the first three weeks."

Don't Put.

The stern father put on his sternest look as his erring son entered his presence.

"Where were you last night, Charles?" he demanded.

"Let me think—" began the young man.

"I will help you think," observed his father. "You were at the Flut-Flut restaurant, acting host to a party of frivolous chorus girls. Is not that so?"

"Well," said the young man, "seeing that evasion was useless, 'I was.'"

His father cast his eyes up to the ceiling in mute horrified appeal.

"Suppose this should come to the ears of your mother?" he exclaimed. "What do you suppose she would say?"

"Don't worry about that, dad," replied his son. "Ma knows all about it. She was sitting at the next table."—Answers.

The Compromise.

"Does your wife object to your playing golf?"

"No, we've made a compromise."

"That so?"

"Yes, she's perfectly willing to have me play the game, but she insists on my not talking about it after I get home."

The Main Reason.

Because I simply can't determine the high cost of silver and silver crinoline. I've just about decided that I'll have my furs of pussy-cat.

DROWNS SAVING SISTER.

(N. Y. Times)

A pathetic incident was related yesterday at Ellis Island when the 1,300 steerage passengers from the Commander Kaiserin Augusta Victoria arrived there having been quarantined at Hoffman Island since Friday afternoon because there was no room for them at the immigration depot.

Several of the young women went into the water on Sunday afternoon when the heat was 80 in the shade, and Eva Beattie, a Scotch girl, 17 years old, was drowned while trying to save her younger sister, Rose, who had waded out beyond her depth. Rose, who was three years younger, was saved by the guards.

The body of Eva, who wore around her neck a little bag containing all the funds which the sisters brought to the United States, has not yet been recovered.

NOTRE DAME DE LORETTE

If there is one sector of the Western front which holds more sacred memories than another, both for Frenchmen and for Britons of every part of the Empire, it is that which surrounds the ridge of Notre Dame de Lorette which, according to a despatch published in the London Times, has been chosen for a great battle which is to be fought on the Allied dead. Ypres may mean more to the British and Verdun to the French but the heights of Notre Dame have looked down on some of the fiercest struggles and the most bitter sacrifices in the history of either nation.

Its commanding position alone might well have marked it as the most fitting site for a monument. Running due east and west for six miles and towering above the fields of France the ridge, scarred by trenches cut in the chalky soil and surmounted at its western end by the woods and the windmill of Bouvigny, must be a familiar object to almost every British soldier who served on the western front. McCordellier has designed to replace the little shrine at the eastern end of the plateau with the tower of his Pantheon and this will look out over the La Bassac Canal and beyond it across Givenchy, Festubert and Neuve Chapelle, and as far as Arras and Ypres. No longer does the great landmark of the Tower Bridge stand sentinel at Loos and Lens but in its place is a tragic heap of ruins symbolic of the valley that was once the valley of death, the famous Vimy Ridge. What memories the very name recalls to Canadians.

To Canada, says the Times, Vimy Ridge speaks of the final triumph after months of preparation. To Frenchmen it means the first check to the high hopes of 1915. To hundreds of Englishmen it recalls plans of mines and counter-mines, of attack and counter-attack. To many will recall a dark night in May, 1916, when the Canadian soldiers and the sacrifice of many lives, laid down in weariness and without murmur, stopped a break in the line that would have meant disaster which we hesitate to visualize. How many tired gunners from their observation posts on Lorette have watched the big shell dropping in Lett and Givenchy directed straight on "the Pimple" that German O. P. of ill fame which for so long dominated the position.

Below the ridge of Notre Dame on the south, where it can be approached only by steep spurs, separated by ravines, is the little Souchez River, and all that remains of Souchez, Carey and Abblin St. Nazaire. It was here that the stern fighting of the great battle of Arras took place in the spring and summer of 1916. Cut off by the barrier of the British divisions, holding on for dear life in front of Bethune, saw little of the great struggle which our French Allies were carrying on so near at hand. It was not until later when they had won the ridge and surrendered it—not without pang—to our safekeeping that the graveyards and the broken guns, the shattered town of the St. Nazaire church and the scrap iron that had been the famous sugar refinery of the Souchez, told its tale.

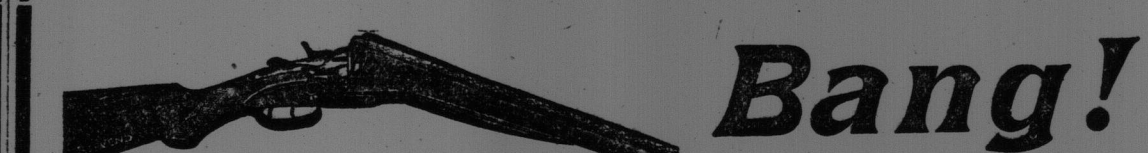
The view from Lorette must look far different from that which it was in the days when one could watch from its heights the German shells crashing into the town, the black smoke of their bursts with clouds of pink dust from some ruined farmhouse or the transport crawling in the dust along the Abblin road. It was in those days that the gipsy bomber whose story was told in the pages of Punch a few years ago found his favorite spot in the battlefields where he would not tear himself away from the slopes of Notre Dame.

"But must he loved to lie upon Lorette. And, crouched on cornflowers, gaze across the lines. On Vimy Ridge—we had not Vimy yet—Souchez's bones, and Lens among the mines. Till, eagle-like, with hoarse incensed shrieks, the German soldiers rose from their sacred peaks. And cast him down to Abblin St. Nazaire."

There are no sentinels today on Lorette and one may walk unscathed and without fear on its chalky heights. The duck boards in the Souchez marches must be gone. Cabaret Rouge is no longer a cameo Piccadilly Circus and there is perfect peace in the Zouave Valley. But the dead lie thick around Notre Dame de Lorette. And the citizens of the "Lantern of the dead" that is to shine from the belfry tower may have a thought for the men who gave their all for the city's freedom, for France and for the Right.

ONTARIO POLICE REFORM

(Toronto Mail and Empire.) Whiskey runners along the Canadian border have called attention in a highly sensational manner to the inadequate police system of the Province of Ontario. Despite the efficiency of individual officers, municipal, county and provincial, the system under which they operate has been outgrown for a generation. The Drury Government is not responsible for the defects in the system, but will be held to account for failure to correct them now that they have been so glaringly exposed. At the root of the trouble is a dual control, or rather the two forces which often fail to co-operate in harmony. When a serious crime is committed in the country or in a town that has no detective force, the practice is for the local officers to work on it, and exhaust the obvious possibilities of the case before calling upon the Attorney-General's department to despatch a specialist.



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