

The Evening Times-Star

The Evening Times-Star, printed at 25-27 Canterbury street, every evening (Sunday excepted) by New Brunswick Publishing Co., Ltd., J. B. Telephone—Private branch exchange connecting all departments. Main 6077.

Subscription Price—By mail per year, in Canada, \$5.00; United States, \$6.00; by carrier per year, \$4.00.

The Evening Times-Star has the largest circulation of any evening paper in the Maritime Provinces.

Advertising Representatives—New York, Ingraham-Powers, Inc., 25 Madison Ave.; Chicago, Ingraham-Powers, Inc., 19 South La Salle Street.

The Audit Bureau of Circulation audits the circulation of The Evening Times-Star.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., SEPTEMBER 2, 1926.

PORT PROSPECTS

The national importance of this, the natural Atlantic winter port of Canada, stands out more prominently than ever as a result of the hearings before the Duncan Commission in Montreal. If ever in our history there was a time when united action should be taken to secure adequate facilities for Saint John harbor, this is it.

The stage is rightly set for early success if the citizens and our public men, without respect to party affiliation, co-operate quickly and act vigorously to bring about the long overdue development of this harbor—a development which, as the Montreal hearings have clearly demonstrated, is essential if Canada is to proceed along sound lines of national transportation policy.

Sir Henry Thornton, in his remarks before the Royal Commission, stressed the necessity for having an all-Canadian route to an always open Atlantic port. We have that port. The National Transcontinental provides a four-tenths grade, east-bound traffic to McNicoll Junction, and on to Moncton. If a bridge of the right kind be built at Fredericton the Transcontinental would thus be linked up with the Valley Railway at the capital, and from thence to Saint John the same low gradient is available. We would thus have an unbroken four-tenths grade from Winnipeg to Atlantic tidewater here, and on west-bound traffic there is no greater grade than six-tenths between Saint John and the wheat lands.

What then is lacking? Additional harbor facilities at Saint John, east and west, the extension of the breakwater, the requisite elevator and terminal capacity, so that all forms of freight may be handled expeditiously.

After all, Saint John's strategic position, duly recognized by Sir Henry Thornton and other transportation authorities before the Duncan Commission, must be recognized unless Canada is to persist in hauling freight uphill instead of down, unless it pursues the policy of avoiding rather than utilizing the shortest available haul to winter tidewater, unless the national and disastrous folly of building up American lake and seaboard cities at the expense of our own country is to be pursued.

Unless the errors and the bad faith which have militated against the prosperity of the Maritime Provinces for more than a generation past are to be repeated and perpetuated, unless the Railway Commission proves unequal to the great problems recently submitted to it for solution, unless the Duncan Commission proves a fiasco, unless the next Federal Government proves unworthy, unless it be hesitant or cowardly when it faces the leading questions of the hour, then it must be thought that Saint John, and indeed the Maritimes at large, are at least within hailing distance of the day for which they have waited so long.

Setting the Table

(Lloyd Roberts in Christian Science Monitor.)

Setting the table is like visiting strange lands. I lay the cloth, damask from Donegal—I can see the pale imprint of Shamrock and fern.

In its frosted surface, silver and steel from Birmingham And the fiery fields of Shetland, salt from the sea coast, tasting of sea winds and sea foam; Pepper from Zanzibar, black with the tropic sun; Sugar from Cuba and the clattering cunes of the Caribbean; Bread from Saskatchewan and the still olive from Italy and the ancient groves of the Orient; Maybe figs from Smyrna, dates from Algiers, Nuts from Brazil, oranges from California, And a round red cheese from Edam. As we wipe off the travel stains from the little brass bowls from Bagdad, It seems that all the ends of the earth Have met at my table.

School Films

(Los Angeles Times.)

At the recent Conventions of the National Educational Association held in Philadelphia it was agreed that there should be larger use of the motion picture in all schools above the third grade. The films are used to emphasize the books. They illustrate the facts in such a way as to give an enduring comprehension of the lessons they accompany. The eye carries its message to the brain with more conviction from the pictured scene than from the printed word. The movie theatre is but a single field for the film industry.

Business First

(Boston Transcript.)

An elderly man hurried into a newspaper office and said: "I've lost my spectacles, somewhere and I want to advertise for them, but I can't see to write the ad without them."

"I will write it for you, sir," said the advertising clerk.

"Thank you," said the man. "Say that they have gold rims and lenses of different focus; insert it three times."

"Yes, sir. That will be \$2.50, please."

The man having handed in that amount, the clerk said: "It gives me great pleasure to inform you, sir, that your spectacles are on the top of your forehead."

"Oh, so they are," said the other. "Why in thunder didn't you say so before?"

The advertising clerk smiled. "Business before pleasure, you know, sir."

A Labor View



"They cannot blow out the light." —From The New Leader, London.

Queer Quirks of Nature

LIVES AT BOT TOM OF SEA.

By AUSTIN H. CLARK

BEAUTIFUL in color, marked with scarlet, green and lilac and with black radiating lines, this jelly fish is a most grotesque creature, for it is extremely poisonous.

You are not likely to encounter it, for it lives down near the bottom in the seas of south Japan, mostly in water averaging 150 feet in depth.

Its poisonous qualities I know from sad experience. Once while dredging in the Eastern sea southward from Kagoshima the net came up with great numbers of these creatures in it. As it swung inland the water dripping from it fell on my back, but at the time I thought nothing of it as one gets used to getting wet at sea.

Some hours later, after I had changed my clothes for dinner, I felt a queer sensation on my back; by dinner time this had become still more puzzling and had changed into great multitudes of little prickling pains. After dinner these increased in number and intensity, and spread all over me. I spent the whole night on the bridge walking back and forth trying vainly to forget those jelly fish. On the forecastle were four sailors with the same idea in mind. All watched the glow from those sailors' pipes.

At the next day the pain remained about the same, but by the third day it had begun to lessen, and in a day or two it had almost gone.

The Political Fray

Conservative

WHAT THE STAR OPPOSES

(Montreal Star.)

If the Liberals are to go back to office by grace of the Progressives, it is perfectly obvious that they must pay the price exacted by these sturdy and determined Westerners. They tried to pay a pretty good instalment last session—though Mr. King looked very like "welching" on it at the last moment when he begged Lord Byng to dissolve Parliament before it had finished its work. Naturally Liberals in the East who want to pay this price will vote for Liberal candidates—now that they are told on the authority of the leading Liberal campaigner in Quebec that his party proposes to pay the price, and expects to get back to office on these terms. But if there are any Liberals in the east who do not want to complete the Hudson Bay Railway, set up a system of rural credit, and give the prairies with branch line railways, they will hesitate to support the Conservatives who are pledged to this program. We may go on and say that they need have no hesitation in supporting the Conservatives, but certain Conservative candidates and leaders may have been "blackmailed" into saying in the West and the West, our Eastern Conservative candidates are not in that predicament at all.

THE TWO PARTIES

(Amherst News.)

The conduct of the King Government during the recent session was not of a nature to inspire an immense or intense amount of respect and one situation, developing from the customs scandal was such that even a large number of its Progressive allies refused to give it support. On the other hand the Conservatives not only have what advantage accrues to a party from being in power, but in the province of Quebec they are united in a manner not known in a decade, and have the support of several influential French daily newspapers which they did not have in the last election. The indications would seem to decidedly favor the Conservatives for an increase in representation in that province. It is easy to be too optimistic over a general situation, but if any party has a right to expect gains in the present election, it would be the party led by Mr. King.

A MORAL ISSUE

(Victoria Colonist.)

Mr. Mackenzie King and his ministers seem to regard what happened in the Customs Department as mere peccadilloes. They do not recognize that there is a moral issue before the people. In that issue, however, the ethics of government itself are at stake and the moral well being of the people. We can hardly doubt that the decision of the people of Canada will be on September 14.

TARIFF FOR PROTECTION

(Hamilton Spectator.)

Canada by reason of its situation in juxtaposition to the United States, has an obvious need for industrial protection, and a tariff for revenue does not apply the requirements. It is on the question of fostering and building up the industrial and commercial welfare of the country that the result of the election will turn.

POEMS OF LOVE

"Airy Beacon," By Charles Kingsley.

HEART-BREAK is in this lyric, beautiful of Kingsley's many brief poems. To give so complete a picture of a life within the astonishingly narrow compass of twelve lines is a noteworthy achievement.

Airy Beacon, Airy Beacon;
Oh, the pleasant sight to see
Shires and towns from Airy Beacon,
While my love climbed up to me!

Airy Beacon, Airy Beacon;
Oh, the happy hours we lay
Deep in fern on Airy Beacon,
Courting through the summer's day!

Airy Beacon, Airy Beacon;
Oh, the weary hunt for me,
All alone on Airy Beacon,
With his baby on my knee!

LIMELIGHT

KINGSTON-ESS.

BRUSSELS—Miss Margaret Van Rensselaer, of the Cornell University faculty, is a specialist in home economics. Her influence is growing rapidly and she is being invited to lecture on domestic loads everywhere.

In recognition of her services Albert, King of the Belgians, conferred on her the order of the Knighthood of the Belgian crown.

Lady Margaret Van Rensselaer is the first of her sex to be knighted.

While there is some remarking on the fact that she is a "foreigner," there is no criticism, as much as there is general and enthusiastic appreciation of her work.

WASHINGTON—The patent office has received a request for a patent to cover a Netherlands discovery that a form of molasses may be used, effectively and inexpensively, as a dust.

Just Fun

A WOMAN in Persia is 146 years old. This is entirely due to the fact that she has lived since 1780.

YOU can't leave many footprints on the sands of time by keeping the top of your desk decorated with fresh hellebrins.

"I ENVY that fat woman when she laughs."

"Well, there seems to be so much of her having a good time."

SOME girls are so hard it takes a diamond to make an impression on them.

A SOUND REASON: "To what do you attribute your long life, Uncle Moses?" asked a newspaper reporter of the colored man who was celebrating his ninety-fifth birthday. "To de fact dat Ah wuz bo'n a long time ago," the old gentleman replied.

DINNER STORIES

AN AFRICAN of peculiarly dusky hue was hailed to court one morning for stealing chickens. The judge said to the clerk: "Swear the prisoner."

"I does, sah."

"Sam, what have you to say for yourself?"

"Yes, judge, with all dem limitations you has just put on me, I don't believe I has anything at all, sah."

"THE youngster had thrown a stick at her sister, a year or two her senior."

"Katherine," said daddy, "did you throw that stick at your sister?"

"Yes, daddy," was the defiant reply.

"Why did you do it?"

"Because," instantly replied the youngster, with her eyes flashing, "afterwards she hit me."

THEY were looking down into the depths of the Grand Canyon.

"Do you know," asked the guide, "what it took millions and millions of years for this great abyss to be carried out?"

"Well, well," ejaculated the traveler. "I never knew this was a government job."

Other Views

THE GUILTY ABROAD

(London Daily News.)

The vengeance of crowds is always indiscriminate, and if it is true that some Americans in France have been passing ten-franc notes on the railway carriage windows and on their valises and wearing them screwed up in their button-holes, it is not very surprising that a French crowd should have felt that vengeance on somebody was essential. Perhaps some effective steps can be taken to induce the sort of behavior that is this sort of thing to desist. But it is not easy to be very hopeful, for at bottom it is not a question of manners but of character. Even a decent brawler does not go into the house of a man notorious in his financial straits and openly mock at his distress.

U. S. VIEW OF DEBTS

(Indianapolis News.)

The debts due us from abroad are due, not to our government, but to the people who advanced the money to be lent to our late associates in the Great War. As it is these people who are the creditors, it is they who should forgive the debts, if they are to be forgiven, rather than the government which acted simply as their agent in the transaction. Nor could our government assume this foreign debt—all it could do would be to say that our

Close Fri. at 10 p.m.; Sat. 1 p.m.

FAMILY LIFE IN CHINA

(The Contemporary Review.)

The coherence and intensiveness of family life in China is hopeful, too, in many of its aspects, for the future, in spite of its undoubted disadvantages, the reactionary spirit it breeds and the backward view, the sense of responsibility, each for all in a family, will always operate for the benefit of the child. It has been pointed out that the demand for state relief and even of organized charity on a large scale, need never arise at all in China. For the family system supplies these needs in duty bound. And in the sense of family responsibility, at least in no way incongruous with it, is the slowly evolving social consciousness of the people. No doubt such a sense is sanctioned by Confucianism, but it is brought into strong relief by Christianity, which teaches a common brotherhood over and above the ties of family relationship, and which modifies even the deep reactions of ancestor-worship with its disproportionate emphasis on past and on tradition.

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people should assume it. The holders of the bonds would be creditors of the government, as they are now, but they and all others would be debtors to the government to the full amount of our foreign debts, assuming the status of our foreign debtors, and they would pay this new obligation in increased taxes.

ECONOMICS AND MINERS

(Glasgow Herald.)

"We will never surrender to the terms of the government and the coal hope of a settlement."

owners," declares Mr. Cook. But no one has ever asked the miners to do that. The only surrender they are being asked to make is the one that is made as a matter of course by the butchers, the bakers and the candlestick makers. They are being asked to conform to the economic facts of their own industry. Their "struggle" is for the subsidy. Their "claim" is the right to live on other industries. Until that struggle and that claim have been abandoned there can be no terms of the government and the coal hope of a settlement.

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